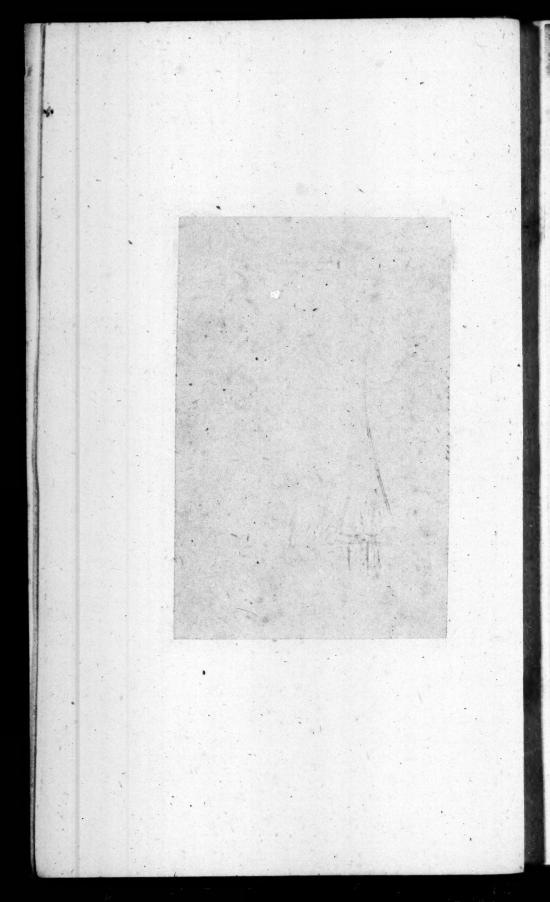
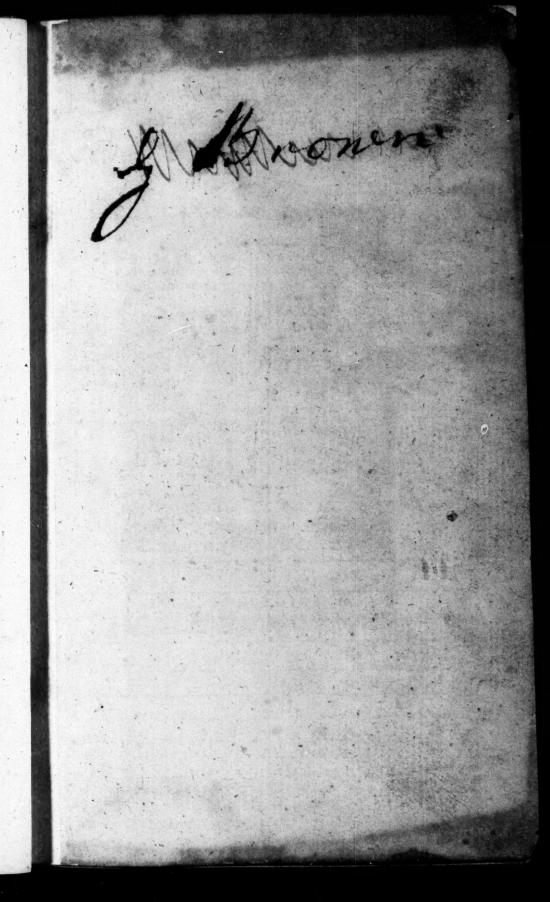


Cornelius Walford, F.S.S.





4 Volta

# TOUR

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# GREAT BRITAIN.

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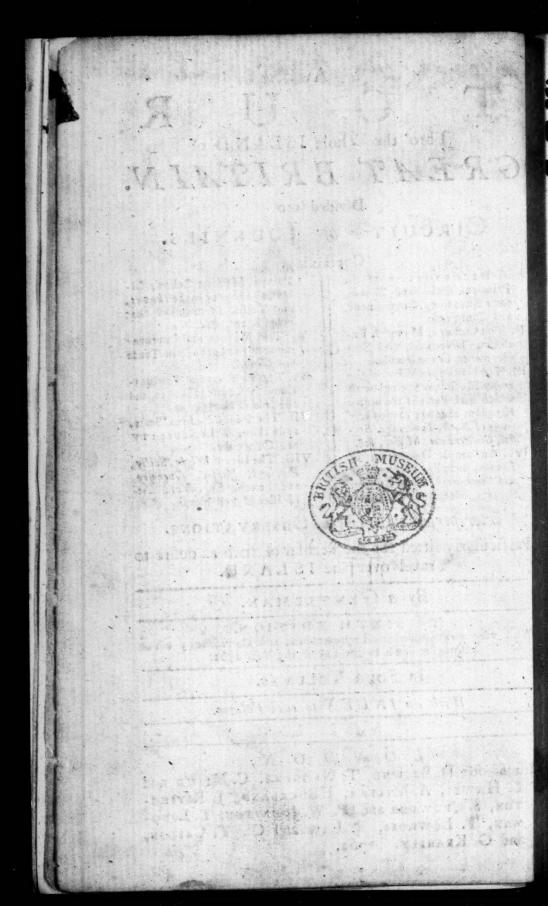
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#### VOL. I.

#### LONDON:

Printed for D. Browne, T. Osborne, C. Hitch and L. Hawes, A. Millar, J. Buckland, J. Rivington, S. Crowder and Co. W. Johnston, T. Longman, T. Lowndes, B. Law and Co. T. Caslon, and G. Kearsly. 1762.





# PREFACE.



HE kind Reception which the feveral Editions of this Work have met with, makes it need-less to trouble the Reader with a

long Preface.

However, it would be doing Injustice to the Original Author, as well as depriving the Reader of the Satisfaction he ought to have in knowing how much he may depend on the Merits of the Piece, if we did not transcribe the following Account which he gives of the Pains he took, and how well qualified he was for such a Task.

'THE Preparations for this Work, fays he, have been suitable to the Author's earnest Concern for its Usefulness.

Seventeen very large Circuits, or Journeys,
A 2 have

have been taken through divers Parts separately, and Three general Tours over ' almost the whole English Part of the 'Island; in all which the Author has not been wanting to treasure up just Remarks 'upon particular Places and Things; fo 'that he is very little in Debt to other 'Mens Labours, and gives but very few ' Accounts of Things but what he has been

an Eye-witness of himself.

' Besides these several Journies in Eng-· land, he has also lived some time in Scot-· land, and has travelled critically over great Part of it: He has viewed the North Part of England, and the South Part of Scotland, Five feveral times over. All which is hinted here, to let the Readers know, what Reason they have to be satisfy'd with the Authority of the Relation; and that the Accounts here given are not the Produce of a cursory View, or raised upon the borrowed Lights of other Observers.'

This was Part of the Author's Preface to his First Edition.

THE succeeding Editions, and particularly the present, have received great Improvements,

provements, as well as very confiderable Additions; which not only Time, but the Erecting of new Structures, the Adorning of many fine Seats, and the Alterations in Harbours, Ports, and Havens, made necessary to be taken notice of. Such Changes will always happen, as leave Room for Improvement in a Work of this Nature. And here it becomes us thankfully to acknowlede ourselves indebted to several worthy Gentlemen, who have kindly communicated to us many curious and interesting Particulars.

WITH respect to the present Edition, besides what has been hinted above, it is proper to add, that the Whole is brought down to the Year 1761; and it might be thought by some ungrateful in us, if we did not acknowlede ourselves indebted for many of our later Observations, and Accounts of Improvements and Alterations owing to Time and particular Circumstances and Attempts, to a truly valuable, and, we may say, public-spirited Work, intitled, The Political Survey of Great Britain.

SEVERAL Gentlemen having expressed a Desire of having a Set of Maps, of a proper Size, to bind with the preceding Edition

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mnts, of this Work, the Proprietors engaged feveral eminent Geographers and Engravers to draw and engrave, in a neat Manner, a new Set of Maps of Great Britain, and the fmaller Islands, with general Maps of England and Scotland, on a larger Scale than any Maps of this Size have been drawn. These met with Approbation, whether inferted in their proper Places in the Work, or bound by themselves in a Pocket Volume. In them (for the Benefit of Travellers) are included Tables of the High and Cross Roads to the feveral Cities and Towns, the Market-Days, Distances in measured Miles from London, or from Town to Town, and other useful Particulars.



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Through the ISLAND of

## GREAT BRITAIN.

### LETTER I.

A DESCRIPTION of Part of the County of Essex, and of the County of Suf-FOLK, &c.

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SET out from London on my First Journey, Eastward; and took a Circuit down by the Coast of the Thames through the Marshes or Hundreds, on the South-side of the county of Effex, to Malden, Col-

hefter, and Harwich, thence continuing on the Coast of Suffolk to Yarmouth; thence round by the Edge of he Sea, on the North and West-side of Norfolk, to lynn, Wishich, and the Wash; thence back again on VOL. I. the

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the North-side of Suffolk; thence into the County of Cambridge; and so to the West-part of Essex, ending it in Middlesex, near the place where I began: reserving the Middle or Centre of the several Counties to some little Excursions, which I made by themselves.

After we have passed Mile-End, as it is called, (a Part of the Town not thinly inhabited) the first Village we come to is Bow, where a large Manufactory of Porcelain is carried on. They have already made large Quantities of Tea-cups, Saucers, Plates, Dishes, Tureins, and most other Sorts of useful Porcelain; which, though not so fine as some made at Chelsea, or as that brought from Drefden, is much stronger than either, and therefore better for common Use; and, being much cheaper than any other China, there is a greater Demand for it. The Proprietors of this Manufactory have also procured some very good Artists in Painting, who are employed in painting some of their finest Sort of Porcelain, and is fo well performed, as to equal most of that from Drefden in this Respect. If they can work this, fo as to underfell the foreign Porcelain, it may become a very profitable Business to the Undertakers, and fave great Sums to the Public, which are annually fent abroad for this Commodity.

Passing Bow-Bridge, where the County of Essex begins, I came first to the Village of Stratford, which is greatly increased of late Years in Houses and Inhabitants, every Vacancy being filled up, in a manner, with the Addition of two little new-built Hamlets, as they may be called, on the Forest-side of the Town; namely, Maryland-Point, and the Gravel Pits, one facing the Road to Woodford and Epping, and the other that to Ilford. As for the Hither part, it is almost joined to Bow, in spite of Rivers, Canals,

Marshy-grounds, &c.

THE same Increase of Buildings may be seen proportionally in the other Villages adjacent, especially on the Forest-side; as at Low-Layton, Layton stone, Wal-

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thamstow, Woodford, Wansted, West Ham, Plaistow, Upton, &c. and this, generally speaking, of handsome large Houses, from 201. to 501. a Year, being chiefly the Habitations of the rich Citizens, who are able to keep a Country-House, as well as a Town one, or of such as have lest off Trade altogether. This is so apparent, that, they tell me, there are no less than 200 Coaches kept by the Inhabitants within the Circumference of the sew Villages named above, besides such as are kept by accidental Lodgers.

There have been discerned of late Years, in the Bottom of Hackney marsh, between Old-Ford and the Wyck, the Remains of a great Stone Causeway, which is supposed to have been the Highway, or great Road, from London to Essex, instead of that which now leads over the Bridge between Bow and Stratford.

That the great Road lay this Way, and that the great Causeway continued just over the River, where now the Temple-Mills stand, and passed by Sir Henry Hicks's House at Ruckholt, is not doubted; and that it was one of those samous Highways made by the Romans there is undeniable Proof, by the several Marks of Roman Work, and by Roman Coins, and other Antiquities, found there, some of which were collected by the late Reverend Mr. Strype, Vicar of Low-Layton.

The Land in the Neighbourhood of Stratford, Maryland-Point, &c. has of late Years been much improved by the Cultivation of Potatoes, which have increased so much, as that some hundred Acres are annually planted there; and the digging of the Land, together with the dressing it for the Potatoes, as also when the Roots are dug up, prepares the Ground so well, that whatever is sown or planted afterwards succeeds to Admiration. But by the Culture of these Roots, the great Tythes of these Parishes are reduced to less than half of their former Value, since it has been

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determined that the Tythe of Potatoes belongs to the Vicar.

From hence the great Road passed up to Layton-stone, a Place known now by the Sign of the Green-Man, formerly a Lodge upon the Edge of the Forest; and, crossing by Wanstead-house, the noble Seat of Earl Tilney, went over the same River, which we now cross at Ilford; and, passing that Part of the great Forest called Henault-Forest, came into the present great Road, a little on this Side the Whalebone, a Place so called, because a Rib-bone of a large Whale, taken in the River of Thames, was fixed there in 1658, the Year that Oliver Gromwell died.

According to my Intention, of effectually viewing the Sea-coasts of Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, I went from Stratford to Barking, a large Market town, chiefly inhabited by Fishermen, whose Smacks ride in the Thames, at the Mouth of Barking Creek, from whence their Fish are sent up to London, to the Market

at Billing sgate, in small Boats.

These Fishing-smacks are very useful Vessels to the Public upon many Occasions; as particularly in time of War they are used as Press-smacks, running to all the Northern and Western Coasts to pick up Seamen to man the Navy, when any Expedition is at hand, that requires a sudden Equipment. At other times, being excellent Sailors, they are Tenders to particular Men of War, and, on an Expedition, they have been made use of as Machines, for the blowing up fortified Ports, as formerly at St Malo, and other Places.

The Parish of Barking is very large, and has two Chapels of Ease, to wit, one at Ilford, and one on the

Side of the Forest, called New chapel.

This Side of the County is rather rich from the Nature of its Land, than from the Number of its Inhabitants, which is occasioned by the Unhealthiness of the Air; for these low-Marsh-grounds, which, with all the South-fide of the County, have been gained,

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where the River is wide enough to be called so, begin here, or rather at West Ham, by Stratford, and extend themselves from hence Eastward; growing wider, till we come beyond Tilbury, when the slat Country lies six, seven, or eight Miles in Breadth, and is both unhealthy and unpleasant.

However, it is very good Farming in the Marshes, because the Landlords let good Penyworths, though the Land is rich; for, it being a Place where every body cannot live, those that venture it will have Encouragement; and it is but reasonable they should.

In passing from Barking to Dagenham, we saw the Place where was the samous Breach, that laid near 5000 Acres of Land under Water; but which, after near ten Years Inundation, and the Works being several times blown up, was at last effectually stopped by Captain Perry, who for several Years had been employed in the Czar of Muscovy's Works, at Veronitza, on the River Don.

Great Part of the Lands in these Levels, especially those on this Side East-Tilbury, are held by the Farmers, Cow-keepers, and Grafing Butchers, who live in and near London, and generally stock them with Lincolnshire and Leicestershire Wethers (which they buy in Smithfield, in September and October, when the Grafiers fell off their Stocks), and feed here till Christmas or Candlemas; and, though they are not made much fatter here than when bought in, yet very good Advantage accrues by the Difference of the Price of Mutton between Michaelmas, when cheapest, and Candlemas, when dearest; and this is what the Butchers call, by way of Excellence, right Marsh Mutton. This Mutton is generally taken, by Persons who are ignorant in the Choice of Meat, to be turnep-fed, because the Fat generally turns yellowish; but this is a great Mistake; for the Sheep, which are fatted with Table B 3 at 1 Hold & w 1101 Fur-

Turneps, are by far the best of any killed for the Markets.

At the End of these Marshes, close to the Edge of the River, stands Tilbury-Fort, which may justly be looked upon as the Key of the City of London: It is a regular Fortification: the Defign of it was a Pentagon. but the Water-bastion, as it should have been called, was never built: the Plan was laid out by Sir Martin Beckman, chief Engineer to King Charles II. who also defigned the Works at Sheerness. The Esplanade of the Fort is very large, and the Bastions the largest of any in England. The Foundation is laid upon Piles driven down two an End of one another, fo far, till they were affured they were below the Channel of the River, and that the Piles, which were shod with Iron, entered into the folid Chalk-rock, adjoining to the Chalk-hills on the other Side.

The Works to the Land-fide are complete; the Bastions are faced with Brick. There is a double Ditch or Moat, the innermost of which is 180 Feet broad; a good Counterfearp, and a Covered Way marked out, with Ravelins and Tenailles; but they

have not been completed.

On the Land-side there are also two small Redoubts of Brick; but the chief Strength of this Fort on the Land-fide confifts in being able to lay the whole Level under Water, and so to make it impossible for an Ene-

any to carry on Approaches that Way.

On the Side next the River, is a very strong Curtin, with a noble Gate called the Watergate in the Middle, and the Ditch is palifadoed. At the Place where the Water-bastion was designed to be built, and which, by the Plan, should run wholly out into the River, fo as to flank the two Curtins, on each Side, stands an high Tower, which, they tell us, was built in Queen Elizabeth's Time, and was called the Blockboule.

Before this Curtin is a Platform in the Place of a Counterte

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Counterscarp, on which are planted 106 Cannon, generally carrying from 24 to 46 Pound Ball; a Battery fo terrible, as to shew the Consequence of that Place: besides which, there are smaller Pieces planted between them; and the Bastions and Curtins also are planted with Guns, so that they must be bold Fellows who will venture in the biggest Ships to pass such a Battery, if the Men appointed to serve the Guns do their Duty.

From hence there is nothing for many Miles together remarkable, but a continued Level of unhealthy Marshes, called The Three Hundreds, till we come before Leigh, and to the Mouth of the Rivers Chelmer and Blackwater, saving that the Towns of Horndon, Rayley, and Rochford, lie near the Sea-coast, extending in the Order I have named, but are of no Note. The above Rivers, united, make a large Firth, or Inlet of the Sea, which our Fishermen and Seamen, who use it

as a Port, call Malden-water.

In this Inlet is Ofey or Ofyth Island, so well known by our London Men of Pleasure for producing vast Numbers of Wild-ducks, Mallards, Teals, and Wigeons, that the Island seems covered with them at certain times of the Year, and they go from London for the Pleasure of Shooting; and often come home with an Essex Ague on their Backs, which they find an

heavier Load than the Fowls they have shot.

On the Shore, beginning a little below Candy Island, or Leigh Road, lies a great Shoal or Sand, called the Black Tail, which runs out near three Leagues into the Sea, due East; at the End of it stands a Pole or Mast, set up by the Trinity-house of London, as a Sea-mark: this is called Shoe-beacon, from the Point of Land where this Sand begins, which is called Shoeberry-ness, from a Town of that Name, which stands by it From this Sand, and on the Edge of Shoeberry before it, or South-west of it, all along, to the Mouth of Colchester-water, the Shore is full of Shoals and Sands, with

with some deep Channels between; all which are so full of Fish, that the Barking Smacks are well employed here, and the Shore swarms, besides, with small Fisher-boats, belonging to the Villages and Towns on the Coast, which come in every Tide with what they take; and, selling the smaller Fish in the Country, send the best and largest upon Horses, which travel

Night and Day, to London Market.

On this Shore also are taken the best and most relishing, though not the largest, Oysters in England. The Spot from whence they have their Appellation is a little Bank called Woelfleet, in the Mouth of the River Crouch, called Grooksea water; but the chief Place where these Oysters are now had is from Wyvenhoe, and the Shores adjacent, whither they are brought by the Fishermen, who take them at the Mouth of Colchester-water, and about the Sand they call the Spits, and carry them up to Wyvenhoe, where they are laid in Beds or Pits on the Shore to feed, as they call it; and then, being barrelled up, and carried to Colchester, which is but three Miles off, they are fent to London by Land, and are from thence called Colchefter Oysters. A great Quantity of these Oysters are brought from the Coast of Suffex, near Bognar, where I have feen more than a Dozen Vessels together dredging for Oysters, which were carried to Colchester and laid in their Beds.

The following short Account of the Nature of these green or Colchester Oysters, and the Manner of ma-

ing them, cannot fail of being acceptable.

In the Month of May the Oysters cast their Spawn, which the Dredgers call their Spat. It re-

fembles a Drop of Candle-greafe, and is about the

Bigness of an Halfpeny. The Spat cleaves to Stones, old Oyster shells, Pieces of Wood, and such-like

things at the Bottom of the Sea, which they call

· Cultch. It is probably conjectured, that the Spat, in

4 24 Hours, begins to have a Shell.

In

In the Month of May the Dredgers (by the Law of the Admiralty Court) have Liberty to catch all manner of Oysters, of what Size soever. When they have taken them, with a Knise they raise the small Breed from the Cultch; and then they throw the Cultch in again, to preserve the Ground for the future, unless they be so newly spat, that they cannot be safely sever'd from the Cultch: In that Case they are permitted to take the Stone or Shell, &c. that the Spat is upon; one Shell having many times 20 Spats.

After the Month of May it is Felony to carry away the Cultch, and punishable to take any other Oysters, unless it be those of Size, that is to say, about the Bigness of an Half-crown Piece, or when the Shells being shut, a fair Shilling will rattle be-

tween them.

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'The Places where these Oysters are chiefly caught, are called the *Pontburnham*, *Malden*, and *Colnwaters*: The latter takes it Names from the River Coln, which passes by Colchester, gives Name to that Town, and runs into a Creek of the Sea, at a Place called the Hythe, being the Suburbs of the Town.

'This Brood, and other Oysters, they carry to

Creeks of the Sea, at Brickelsea, Mersea, Lagno, Faringrego, Wyvenhoe, Tolesbury, and Salt Coase, and there throw them into the Channel, which they call their Beds, or Layers, where they grow and fatten; and in two or three Years the smallest Brood will be

Oysters of the Size aforesaid. Those Oysters, which they would have green, they put into Pits about three Feet deep in the Salt-marshes, which have over-

flowed only at Spring-tides, to which they have Sluices, and let out the Salt-water untill it is about

a Foot and a half deep.

The Pits in which the Oysters become green, are those which are only overslowed by the Sea in Spring Tides; so that during the Neap Tides a green B 5

- " Scum is formed over the Surface of the Water,
- which being taken in by the Fish daily, gives them
- their green Colour, for which Reason the People
- of Colchester never chuse to eat the green Oysters,
- but always prefer the white, believing them to be

· more wholesome.

- . The Oysters, when the Tide comes in, lie with
- their hollow Shell downwards; and, when it goes
- out, they turn on the other Side. They remove not
  - from their Place, unless in cold Weather, to cover

themselves in the Ooze.

- · The Reason of the Scarcity of Oysters, and con-
- · fequently of their Dearness, is, because they are of

· late Years bought up by the Dutch.

- There are great Penalties by the Admiralty-Court
- s laid upon those that fish out of those Grounds which
- the Court appoints, or that destroy the Cultch, or
  - that take Oysters that are not of Size, or that do not
  - tread under their Feet, or throw upon the Shore, a
  - Fish which they call a Five finger, resembling the
  - Rowel of a Spur, because that Fish gets into the

Oysters when they gape, and sucks them out.

- 'The Reason why such a Penalty is set upon any
- that shall destroy the Cultch, is, because they find,
- \* that, if that be taken away, the Ooze will increase \$
- and then Muffels and Cockles will breed there, and
- destroy the Oysters, they having not whereon to
  - The Oysters are sick after they have spat, but in
- fune and July they begin to mend, and in August
- they are perfectly well. The Male Oyster is Black-
- fick, having a black Substance in the Fin; the
- · Female White-fick (as they term it), having a milky
- · Substance in the Fin. They are falt in the Pits,

· falter in the Layers, but faltest at Sea.'

They take also at Colchester fine Soals, which generally yield a good Price at London Market; also some-

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times middling Turbut, with Whitings, Codlings, and

large Flounders.

In the several Creeks and Openings, on this Shore, are also other Islands, but of no great Note, except Mersey, which lies between the two Openings of Malden-water and Colchester-water; and is a Place of such difficult Access, that 'tis thought 1000 Men might keep Possession of it against a great Force, whether by Land or Sea. On this Account, and because, if possessed by an Enemy, it would shut up all the Navigation and Fishery on that Side, a Fort was built on the South-east Point of it; and generally, in a Dutch War, a strong Garrison is kept there to defend it.

At this Place may be faid to end, what we call The Three Hundreds of Essex, which include the marshy Country; to wit, Barnstable Hundred, Rochford Hun-

dred, and Dengy Hundred.

One thing deserves Mention here; which is, That all along this Country it is very nequent to meet with Men that have had from 5 or 6, to 14 or 15 Wives; and I was informed, that in the Marshes, over against Candy Island, was a Farmer, who was then living with the 25th; and that his Son, who was but 35 Years old, had already had about 14. Indeed this Part of the Story I only had by Report, though from good Hands: But the other is well known, and will be attested, about Fobbing, Curringham, Thunderfly, Benfleet, Prittlewell, Wakering, Great Stambridge, Crickfen, Burnham, Dengy, and other Towns of the The Reason, as a merry Fellow like Situation. told me, who said he had had about a Dozen, was this, That they being bred in the Marshes themselves, and feafoned to the Place, did pretty well; but that they generally chose to leave their own Lasses to their Neighbours out of the Marshes, and went into the Uplands for a Wife: That when they took the young-Women out of the wholesome fresh Air, they were clear and healthy; but, when they came into the Marthes B 6

Marshes amongst the Fogs and Damps, they presently change Complexion, got an Ague or two, and feldom held it above half a Year, or a Year at most: And then, faid he, we go to the Uplands again, and fetch another. So that marrying of Wives was reckoned a kind of good Farm to them. Nor do the Men in these Parts hold it out, as in other Countries; for we seldom meet with very ancient People among the Poor; infomuch that hardly one half of the Inhabitants are Natives of the Place; but fuch as come from other Parts

for the Advantage of good Farms.

From the Marshes, and low Goounds, being not able to travel without many Windings and Indentures, by reason of the Creeks and Waters, I came up to the ancient Town of Malden, fituate at the Conflux of two principal Rivers, the Chelmer and the Black-water, where they enter the Sea. It is built in the Form of a Cross, is a Liberty in itself, and has a convenient Haven for Ships: it confifts of one Street near a Mile long, besides Lanes, &c. It is governed by two Bailiffs, Aldermen, Steward, Recorder, &c. and fends two Members to Parliament. Here is a good public Library for the Use of the Minister and the Clergy of the Hundreds adjoining to the Sea; and any Gentleman may borrow a Book, upon depositing the Value of it.

The Channel called Malden-water is navigable to the Town; where, by that means, is a great Trade for carrying Corn by Water to London; the County of Esfex being (especially on that Side) a great Corn

Country.

Malden was a Roman Colony, which Camden diffidently conjectures to be the ancient Camalodunum. But Mr. Salmon will have it to be the Villa Faustini, which has been fo long attributed to St. Edmund'sbury: But however that be, it was here the Britons, under the valiant Queen Boadicia, cut in Pieces the tenth Legion, killed above 80,000 Romans, and deftroyed

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stroyed the Colony; but she was afterwards overthrown herself in a great Battle, 60,000 Britons slain, and herself and Daughters most inhumanly treated and disgraced, by those great Reformers of the World, who, in her Case, forgot not only the Honour due to the Sex, but that which the truly Brave shew to the Brave in Missortune.

Being obliged to come thus far into the Uplands, I made it my Road to pass thro' Witham; a pleasant, well-situated Market-town, in which, and in its Neighbourhood, are many Gentlemen of good Fortune and Families.

Nearer Chelmsford, hard by Boreham, is the famous Seat of Beaulieu, in which King Henry VIII. very much delighted. It is the largest Edifice in the County

next Audley-end.

The Product of all this Part of the Country is Corn, as that of the marshy feeding Grounds is Grass, where their chief Business is Breeding of Calves, which I need not say are the best and fattest, and the largest

Veal in England, if not in the World.

Colchester, the Iciani of the Romans, according to Mr. Salmon, is pleasantly situated upon an Eminence above the River Coln. It is a large and populous Town, adorned with handsome Streets, and, though it cannot be said to be finely built, yet there are Abundance of good Houses in it. In the Conclusion of the great Civil War it suffered a severe Siege, which, as it made a resolute Desence, was turned into a Blockade, wherein the Garrison, and Inhabitants also, suffered the utmost Extremity of Hunger, and were at last obliged to surrender at Discretion; when their two chief Officers, Sir Charles Lucas and Sir George Lisle, were cruelly shot to Death under the Castle-wall for their Bravery.

The battered Walls, the Breaches in the Turrets, and the ruined Churches, still shew Marks of this

Siege,

Siege, except that the Church of St. Mary (where they had the Royal Fort) is rebuilt; but the Steeple, which was two Thirds battered down (the Besieged having a large Culverin upon it, which did much Execution), remains still in that Condition.

The Lines of Contravallation, which furrounded the whole Town, and the Forts of the Besiegers, re-

main very visible in many Places.

The River Coln, which passes through the Town, encompasses it on the North and East; and served, in time of War, for a complete Desence on those Sides. There are three Bridges over it, and it is navigable within three Miles of the Town, for Ships of large Burden; a little lower it may receive even a Royal Navy; and up to that Part called the Hythe, close to the Houses, it is navigable for Hoys, and small Barks; for which it is indebted to three Acts of Parliament passed for that Purpose, one in the Reign of King William III. one in that of King George I. and the other in that of King George II.

The Hythe is a long Street, passing from West to East, on the South-side of the Town, and is so populous towards the River, that it may be called, The Wapping of Colchester. There is one Church in that Part of the Town, a large Quay by the River, and a

good Cuftom house.

The Town chiefly subsists by the Trade of making Bays, though indeed all the Towns around carry on the same Trade; as Kelvedon, Witham, Coggshall, Braintree, Bocking, &c. and the whole Country, large as it is, may be said to be employed, and in Part maintained, by the Spinning of Wool, for the Bay-Trade of Colchester, and its adjacent Villages.

The Town of Colchester has been supposed to contain about 40,000 People, including the Out villages within its Liberty, of which there are many, the Liberty of the Town being of a large Extent. It is governed by a Mayor, High-Steward, a Recorder, or his

Deputy,

Deputy, eleven Aldermen, a Chamberlain, a Townclerk, Affistants, and eighteen Common-councilmen; and fends two Members to Parliament.

There are in Colchester eight Churches, besides those which are damaged, and five Meeting-houses, whereof two for Quakers; besides one Dutch, and one French

Church. Its other public Edifices are,

1. Bay-Hall, where the Goodness of the Manufacture of Bays made in this Town is ascertained by a Corporation established for this Purpose, consisting of a Set of Men, called Governors of the Dutch Bay-hall.

2. The Guildhall of the Town, called by them the Moot hall; contiguous to which is the Town-gaol.

3. The Work-house for the Poor.

4. A Grammar Free-school; which has good Allowance for the Master, who is chosen by the Town.

5. The Castle of Colchester is a Monument of the Antiquity of the Place, being built, as the Walls of the Town also are, with Roman Bricks; and the Roman Coins dug up here, and plowed up in the Fields adjoining, confirm it. The Inhabitants boaft, that Helena, the Mother of Constantine the Great, first Christian Emperor of the Romans, was born there: but it would be hard to make it out. Mr. Camden fays, That this Castle was, in his Time, ready to fall with Age; and yet it has flood a large Number of Years fince, and perhaps is not much worfe than it was then, although it received several Cannon shot in the last Siege of the Town, which made no Impression upon it, as the Besiegers found, and therefore left off firing against it, and the rather, as the Garrison made no great Use of it against them. The Queen's Head in the Market-place, and the Stable, are also Roman Buildings. There was likewise a Roman Military Way from Colchester, by Braintree, Dunmow, and farther that Way.

6. Two Charity schools, supported by Subscrip-

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From Colchester I took a Turn down to the Coast. The Land running out a great Way into the Sea, South, and South-east, makes that Promontory of Land, called the Nase, well known to Seamen who use the Northern Trade. Here one sees a Sea open as an Ocean, without any opposite Shore, though it be no more than the Mouth of the Thames. This Point, called the Nase, and the North-east Point of Kent near Margate, called the North-Foreland, make the Mouth of the River, and the Port of London, and is above 60 Miles over.

But, as it is pretended by some, that, according to the present Usage of the Custom house, the Port of London is not allowed to extend so far, 'tis thought proper to insert the Clause taken from the Act of Parliament,

establishing its Extent.

To prevent all future Differences and Disputes, touching the Extent and Limits of the Port of Lon-

don, the faid Port is declared to extend, and be accounted, from the Promontory, or Point, called the

· North-Foreland, in the Isle of Thanet, and from

thence Northward, in a right Line, to the Point

called the NASE, beyond the Gunfleet, upon the
 Coast of Essex; and so continued Westward through-

out the River Thames, and the feveral Channels,

· Streams, and Rivers falling into it, to London bridge;

faving the usual and known Rights, Liberties, and Privileges of the Ports of Sandwich and Ipswich, and

either of them, and the known Members thereof, and

of the Customers, Comptrollers, Searchers, and their

Deputies, of and within the faid Ports of Sandwich

and Ipswich, and the several Creeks, Harbours, and

• Havens, to them, or either of them, respectively be• longing, within the Counties of Kent and Essex.'

Notwithstanding which, the Port of London, as in Use since the said Act, is understood to reach no farther than Gravesend in Kent, and Tilbury-point in Essex;

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and the Ports of Rochester, Milton, and Feversham, belong to the Port of Sandwich.

In like manner the Ports of Harwich, Colchester, Wyvenhoe, Malden, Leigh, &c. are said to be Members

of the Port of Ipswich.

This Observation may suffice for what is needful to be said upon the same Subject, when I come to speak of the Port of Sandwich, and its Members, and their Privileges with respect to Rochester, Milton, Feversham, &c. in my Circuit through the County of Kent.

At Walton, under the Nase, they find on the Shore Copperas stones in great Quantities; and there are several large Works called Copperas houses, where it

is made with great Expence.

From hence we go back into the County about four Miles, because of the Creeks which lie between; and, turning East again, come to Harwich, on the utmost

Eastern Point of this large County.

Harwich is a Town strong by Situation, and may be made more so by Art. The Harbour or Road is one of the securest in England, and covered at the Entrance by Landguard-fort, and a Battery of Guns to the Seaward, just as at Tilbury, and-which sufficiently defend the Mouth of the River. Though the Entrance or Opening of the River into the Sea is very wide, especially at High-water, at least two Miles, if not three, over; yet the Channel, in which the Ships must keep and come to the Harbour, is deep, narrow, and lies only on the Side of the Fort; so that all Ships which come in, or go out, must come within Gunshot of the Fort.

The Fort is on the Suffolk Side of the Bay, but stands so far into the Sea, upon the Point of a Sand, or Shoal, running out towards the Essex Side, that, in a manner, it covers the Mouth of the Haven: and our Surveyors of the Country affirm it to be in the Country of Essex. The making this Place, which was formerly no other than a Sand in the Sea, solid enough for

Years Labour, frequent Repairs, and a prodigious Expence; but it is now fo firm, that neither Storms nor

Tides affect it.

The Harbour is of a vast Extent; for the River Stour from Maningtree, and the River Orwel from Ipswich, empty themselves here: and the Channels of both are large and deep, and safe for all Weathers; and where they join, they make a large Bay, or Road, able to receive the biggest Ships of War, and the greatest Number that ever the World saw together. In the Dutch War, great Use was made of this Harbour; and there have been 100 Sail of Men of War with their Attendants, and between 3 and 400 Sail of Colliers, all riding in it at a time, with great Safety and Convenience.

Harwich is the Port where the Packet-boats between England and Holland go out, and come in. The Inhabitants are far from being famed for good Ufage to Strangers; but, on the contrary, are deemed extravagant in their Reckonings, in the Public-houses: this has encouraged the setting up of Sloops, which they now call Passage boats, to go directly from the River Thames to Holland: though the Passage may be something longer, yet the Masters of the Sloops are said to be more obliging to Passengers, and more reasonable in the Expence, and the Vessels good Sea-boats. Harwich has been a Sufferer on this Account.

The People of Harwich boast, that their Town is walled, and their Streets paved, with Clay; and yet, that one is as strong, and the other as clean, as those that are built or paved with Stone. The Fact is indeed true; for there is a fort of Clay in the Cliff, between the Town and the Beacan-hill adjoining, which when it falls down into the Sea, where it is beaten with the Waves and the Weather, turns gradually into Stone. But the chief Reason assigned is from the Water of a certain Spring or Well, which, rising in

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the Cliff, runs down into the Sea among those Pieces of Clay, and petrifies them as it runs; and the Force of the Sea often stirring, and perhaps turning the Lumps of Clay, when Storms of Wind may give Force enough to the Water, causes them to harden-every where alike; otherwise those which were not quite sunk in the Water of the Spring, would be petrify'd but in Part. These Stones are gathered up to pave the Streets, and build the Houses, and are indeed very hard. It is also remarkable, that some of them, taken up before they are thoroughly petrify'd, will, upon breaking them, appear to be hard as a Stone without, and soft as Clay in the Middle; whereas others, that have lain a due time, will be thorough Stone to the Centre, and full as hard within as without.

On the Promontory of Land, called Beacon bill, which lies beyond, or behind the Town, toward the Sea, is a Light-house, to give the Ships Direction in their failing by the Harbour, as well as their coming

into it at Night.

This Town was formerly fortified; but in the Reign of King Charles I. the Fortifications were demolished. It has fince been ordered to be fortify'd again, and Ground has been bought accordingly, to the King's Use, by Act of Parliament: but nothing more has been done in it yet; and indeed, it is many Years since the Government, having a better Security in the British Shipping, have had Occasion to sortify Towns to the Landward.

It was incorporated in the 13th of Edward II. The Harwich Men pretended a Grant from Edw. III. to take Custom-duties for Goods coming into the Haven, till, on a Complaint made by the Town of Ipswich that it was an Infringement upon their Liberties, an Inquisition was appointed by that Prince at Ipswich, the 14th of his Reign, by which it was determined against Harwich, in favour of Ipswich.

Harwich, after all, may be said to be a neat, clean, well-

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well built Town; enjoys a good Maritime Trade; is governed by a Mayor, &c. has a Market every Tuefday and Friday, and two annuals Fairs, one on Mayday, the other on October the 18th; and returns two Members to Parliament.

Landguard fort was built in the Reign of King James I. and was a much more confiderable Fortification than at present; having had four Bastions, named the King's, the Queen's, Holland's, and Warwick's, mounted with 60 very large Guns, particularly those on the Royal Bastion, where the King's Standard was displayed, which would throw a 28 Pound Ball over Harwich; and it had a constant Garrison, with a Chapel, and many Houses, for the Governor, Gunners, and other Officers. But it has been demolished, and a small Platform made instead of it, by the Waterside; but yet, as the particular Current of the Channel, which Ships must keep in, as I have said, obliges them to pass just by the Fort, the Harbour is sufficiently desended on the Sea side from any sudden Invasion.

At Harwich are two hot and two cold Salt-Water Baths, of elegant Structure and curious Contrivance, with private Dreffing-Rooms for Gentlemen

and Ladies, separated from each other.

The Buildings stand in a large Reservoir, containing many hundred Tons of pure Sea-water, renewed by every Tide from the Sea; from this Reservoir the Baths are continually supplied with pure running Seawater, at any Hour of the Day, by a Contrivance that exactly resembles a natural Spring.

And for the Ease and Convenience of such as are lame, or have not Strength to plunge themselves, there is a Crane Chair of particular Contrivance.

There are also Vapour Baths, either for immersing the whole Body, or any particular Limb or Limbs, in the Steam or Vapour of hot Sea-water. Here is also Partial Large Bathing, for which a curious Machine is provided to throw Sea-water, either hot or Cold, (in a

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continual Stream, and any defired Velocity) upon any Part of the Body.

The Physicians well know the great Use of these forts

of Bathing in many Disorders.

On the Road from London to Colchester lie four good Market Towns, at near equal Distance from one another, Rumford, Brentwood, Ingatstone, and Chelmsford. Rumford is noted for two Markets, one for Calves and Hogs, the other for Corn and other Provisions, mostly bought up for London Market.

Rumford is governed by a Bailiff and Wardens, who are impowered by Patent, though no Corporation, to hold a Court every Week, for the Trial of Treasons, Felonies, Debts, or other Actions. It has a Charity-

school for 50 Boys and 20 Girls.

Brentwood and Ingatstone are large thoroughsare Towns, sull of Good Inns, chiefly maintained by the Multitude of Carriers and Passengers constantly passing this Way to London, with Droves of Cattle, Provisions, and Manusactures.

Chelmsford is chiefly supported by the same Business. It is the County-town, where the Assizes are held; and stands on the Conflux of two Rivers, the Chelmer, whence the Town derives it Name, and the Cann; and has a good Free-school belonging to it.

East of Brentwood, lies Billericay, a pretty confider-

able Market-town.

Near Chelmsford stands a Seat of the Right Honourable the Earl of Fitzwalter, which is seen on the Lesthand of the Road, just before you enter the Town. The House is large, and having been lately new-front-

ed, makes an handsome Appearance.

Five Market-towns fill up the rest of this Part of the County, Dunnow, Braintree, Thaxted, Ha'sted, and Coggshall, all noted for the Manusacture of Bays. But Dunnow I must particularly mention, on account of the famous old Story of its Flitch of Bacon; which is this:

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One Robert Fitzwalter, a powerful Baron in this County, in the Time of Henry III. instituted a Custom in the Priory here: That whatever married Man did not repent of his being married, or differ and dispute with his Wife, within a Year and a Day after his Marriage, and would swear to the Truth of it, kneeling upon two hard pointed Stones in the Priory Churchyard, set up for that Purpose, in Presence of the Prior and Convent, such Person should have a Flitch of Bacon.

This has been actually claimed and received, as ap-

pears by the following Record there:

Dunmow Priory, A T a Court Baron of the Right

Essex. Worshipful Sir Thomay May,

Knight, there holden on Friday the 27th Day of

June, in the 13th Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord William III. by the Grace of God, of

England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King,

Defender of the Faith, &c. and in the Year of our

Lord 1701, before Thomas Wheeler, Gentleman,

Steward there.

Homage.

Eliz, Beaumont,
Henrietta Beaumont,
Annabella Beaumont,
Jane Beaumont,
Mary Wheeler,

Spinsters, jur'.

BE it remembered, That at this Court, it is found and presented by the Homage aforesaid, That John Reynolds of Hatsield-Regis, alias Hatsield-Broadoake, in the County of Essex, Gent. and Anne his Wise, have been married for the Space of 10 Years last past, and upward. And it is likewise found, presented, and adjudged, by the Homage aforesaid, that the said John Reynolds, and Anne his Wise, by means of their quiet and peaceable, tender and loving Cohabitation, for the Space of Time aforesaid (as appears by Reserence to the

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the faid Homage), are fit and qualified Persons to be admitted by the Court to receive the ancient and accustomed Oath, whereby to intitle themselves to have the Bacon of Dunmow delivered unto them, according to the Custom of the Manor: Whereupon, at the Court, in full and open Court, came the faid John Reynolds, and Anne his Wife, in their proper Persons; and humbly prayed, that they might be admitted to take the Oath aforesaid: Whereupon the said Steward, with the Jury, Suitors, and other Officers of the Court. proceeded, with the usual Solemnity, to the antient and accustomed Place for the Administration of the Oath, and receiving the Bacon aforefaid; that is to fay, to the two great Stones lying near the Church Door within the faid Manor : where the faid John Reynolds, and Anne his Wife, kneeling down on the faid two Stones, the faid Steward did administer unto them the aforementioned Oath, in these Words.

YOU do swear, by Custom of Confession;
That you never made nuptial Transgression;
Nor, since you were married Man and Wife,
By Houshold Brawls, or contentious Strife,
Or otherwise, in Bed or Board,
Offended each other in Deed or Word;
Or, in a Twelvemonth's time, and a Day,
Repented not in Thought any way;
Or, since the Church Clerk said Amen,
Wish'd your selves unmarry'd again;
But continue true, and in Desire,
As when you join'd Hands in holy Choir.

And immediately thereupon the faid John Reynolds, and Anne his Wife, claiming the faid Bacon, the Court pronounced Sentence for the fame in these Words;

SINCE to these Conditions, without any Fear, Both, of your own Accord, do freely swear,

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A whole Gamon of Bacon you do receive, And bear it away with Love and good Leave: For this is the Custom of Dunmow well known; Tho' the Pleasure be ours, the Bacon's your own.

And accordingly a Gamon of Bacon was delivered to the faid John Reynolds, and Anne his Wife, with the

usual Solemnity.

And also William Parsley, of Much Eyston in the County of Esex, and Jane his Wise, being married for the Space of three Years last-past, and upwards, by means of their quiet, peaceable, tender, and loving Cohabitation for the said Space of Time, came and claimed the said Bacon, and had it delivered unto them, according to the aforesaid Order,

Thomas Wheeler, Steward.

The Flitch was also claimed by one John Shakeshanks, Woolcomber, and Anne his Wife, of Weathersfield, in the same County, on Thursday, June 20, 1751.

Formerly, it is thought, the Forests of Epping and Henault took up all the South Part of the County; but particularly we are assured, that it reached to the River Chelmer, and into Dengy Hundred; and from thence again West to Epping and Waltham, where it continues

to be a Forest still.

The Constitution of this Forest is best seen, as to its Antiquity, by the pleasant Grant of it from Edward the Confessor, before the Norman Conquest, to Randolph Peperking, one of his Favourites, who was after called Peverell, and whose Name remains still in several Villages in this County; as particularly that of Hatfield Peverell, in the Road from Chelmsford to Witham, which is supposed to be originally a Park (called a Field in those Days); and Hartfield may be as much as to say, a Park for Deer; for the Stags were in those Days called Harts; so that this was neither more nor less than Randolph Peperking's Hartfield or Deerpark.

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This Randolph or Ralph Peverell had, it seems, a beautiful Lady to his Wife, who was Daughter of Ingelrick, one of Edward the Confessor's Noblemen: he had two Jons by her, William Peverell, a samed Soldier, and Lord or Governor of Dover-castle; which he surrendered to William the Norman, after the Battle in Sussex; and Pain Peverell, his youngest, who was Lord of Cambridge. When the eldest Son delivered up the Castle, the Lady above named was there; and the Norman sell in Love with her, and had a Son by her, who was called William, after the Father's Christian Name, but retained the Name of Peverell, and was afterwards, as History acquaints us, created by William I. Lord of Nortingham.

This Lady, as is supposed, by way of Penance for her Frailty, sounded a Nunnery at the Village of Hat-field-Peverell, mentioned above, where she lies buried in the Parish church, and her Memory is preserved by a Tomb-stone under one of the Windows. The Grant I have mentioned being to be found in Camden,

I shall not transcribe it here.

I shall now, in pursuance of my first Design, proceed to the County of Suffolk.

From Harwich therefore, having a mind to view the Harbour, I fent my Horses round by Maningtree, a good, but dirty Market-town, where is a Timber-bridge over the Stour; or, as it is more usually called, Maningtree water; and took a Boat for Ipswich up the River Orwell, known best by the Name of Ipswick-water, by which Passage from Harwich to Ipswich, it is about 12 Milves.

In a Creek in this River, called Lavington creek, we faw at Low-water such Shoals of Mussels, that great Boats might be loaded with them, and the Quantity scarce diminished to the Eye.

Upswich is seated at the Distance of 12 Miles from Harwich, upon the Edge of the River, which taking a

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short Turn to the West, the Town sorms there a kind of Semicircle, or Half-moon, upon the Bank of the River. It is very remarkable, that the Ships of 500 Tons may, upon a Spring-tide, come up very near this Town, and many Ships of that Burden have been built there, yet the River is scarce navigable above the Town, not even for the smallest Boats; nor does the Tide, which rises sometimes 13 or 14 Feet, and gives them 24 Feet Water very near the Town, slow much

farther up the River than the Town.

No Place in Britain is qualified like Ipswich for carrying on the Greenland Fishery; whether we respect the Cheapness of building, and fitting out their Ships and Shallops; furnishing, victualling, and providing them with all kinds of Stores; Convenience for laying up the Ships after the Voyage; Room for erecting their Magazines, Warehouses, Ropewalks, Cooperages, &c. on the easiest Terms; and especially for the noifome Cookery, which attends the boiling their Blubber, which may be on this River, remote from any Places of Resort; then the Nearness to the Market for the Oil, when it is made; and, which above all ought to be regarded, the Conveniency that arises from this Confideration, that the same Wind which carries them from the Mouth of the Haven, is fair to the very Seas of Greenland.

Ipswich was formerly much more considerable for Trade than at present; but yet it may be accounted a neat and well-built Town, and much larger than many Cities; carries on still a considerable Maritime Trade; and tho it is but thinly inhabited, to what it has been, yet whoever looks into the Churches and Meetinghouses on a Sunday, will not, even in this Particular,

think meanly of it.

It has a very spacious Market-place; in the midst of that is a fair Cross, in which is the Corn-market Adjoining are the Shambles or Butchery, very commodious, and vulgarly, but erroneously, supposed to have )

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d to ave have been built by Cardinal Wolfey; for it owes its Original to a much later Date; viz. to the 40th Year of Queen Elizabeth. Behind this is the Herb-market. and in a spacious Street a little distant is a Market for Butter, Poultry, and other Country Provisions, and another for Fifh, with which the Town is ferved in great Plenty. It has five Marketidays weekly; Tuefday and Thursday for small Meat; Wednesday and Friday for Fish; and Saturday for all Sorts of Provifions. It has also five annual Fairs; one on April 23. one on May 7. and 8. one on July 25. one on the 11th and 12th of August for Cattle also; and the fifth on September 14. which is a very confiderable one for Butter and Cheefe, to which the whole Country round refort, to furnish themselves with Winter Stores; as do also many of the London Dealers in those Commodities, who, however, are not suffered to buy till after the first three Days of the Fair.

There are even now in this Town 12 Parishchurches; out of 14, which there once were; and two Chapels in the Corporation-liberty, out of feveral which have been demolished, besides Meeting-houses, &c. and it once abounded with Religious Houses.

which have yielded to the Fate of the Times.

Here is also a fair Town-hall, with a spacious Council-chamber, and other commodious Apartments; a Shire-hall, where the County-Seffions are held for the Division of Ipswich; a large public Library, adjoining to a noble Hospital founded by the Town. called Christ's Hospital, for the Maintenance of poor Children, old Persons, Maniacs; and in it Rogues, Vagabonds, and flurdy Beggars, are kept to hard Lahour. Also adjoining to this is a good Free-school; and there is likewise the noble Foundation of Mr. Hen. Tooley, Anno 1556. for poor old Men and Women.

It is a Town Corporate, governed by two Bailiffs, a Recorder, 12 Portmen, four of which, besides the Bailiffs, are Justices of the Peace, two Coroners, 24

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Common-councilmen, who are also High-Constables, and 12 of them Headboroughs, and 15 Petty-Consta-

bles; and fends two Members to Parliament.

Its Privileges are extraordinary; for the Bailiffs pass Fines and Recoveries, hear and determine Causes, as well Criminal as Civil, arifing in the Town, and even Crown Causes, preferably to any of his Majesty's Courts at Westminster. They appoint the Affize of Bread, Wine, Beer, &c. No Freeman can be ob. liged to ferve on Juries out of the Town, or bear any Offices for the King, without his own Confent, Sheriffs for the County excepted. Nor are they obliged to pay any Tolls or Duties in any other Parts of the Kingdom, having cast the City of London in a Trial at Law for Duties demanded by the City of Freemen's Ships in the River Thames. They are intitled to all Waifs, Estrays, &c. to all Goods cast on Shore within their Admiralty-Jurisdicton, which extends on the Coast of Essex beyond Harwich, and on both Sides the Suffolk Coast; and their Bailiffs even hold their Admiralty-Court beyond Landguard fort, &c. And by a folemn Decision in their Favour by an Inquisition taken at Ipswich, in the 14th of Edward III. they carried the Point, which Harwich contested with them, of taking Custom-duties for Goods coming into Harwich Haven, which was determined to belong folely to the Bailiffs and Burgesses of Ipswich, as I before hinted. In King John's Reign was a Mint in this Town.

I shall just mention, in this Place, though it be generally known, that the famous Cardinal Wolsey, Archbishop of York, was born in this Town, his Father being a Butcher in it; though, according to Dr. Fiddes, who published his Will, he seems to have been a Man of Substance for those Times. This Prelate rose to the highest Pitch of Honour and Grandeur, that it was possible for a Subject to attain to; and was suddenly stripped of all, having been cast in a Premunire, where by he incurred a Forseiture of all his Effects and Preferments; and being afterwards pardoned, and re-

stored to some Part thereof, particularly to the Archbi-shoprick of York, he was arrested for High-Treason at his Archiepiscopal Palace at Cawood in Yorkshire; and died at Leicester Abbey, (as he was carrying to

London) where he was buried.

The French Refugees, when they first came over to England, began a little to take to this Place; and some Merchants attempted to set up a Linen Manufacture in their Favour; but it did not meet with the expected Success, and at present I find very little of it. The poor People are however employed, as they are allover the adjacent Counties, in spinning Wool for other Towns where Manufactures are settled.

The Country round Ipswich, as are all the Counties so near the Coast, is chiefly applied to Corn, of which a very great Quantity is continually shipped off for London; and sometimes they load Corn here for Holland, especially if the Market abroad is en-

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There is a great deal of good Company in this Town; and tho' here are not so many of the Gentry as at Bury, yet is has more than any other Town in the County.

I take Ipswich to be one of the most agreeable Places in England, for Families who have lived well, but may be reduced to live within a narrow Compass; for,

1. Here are good Houses, at easy Rents.

2. An airy, clean, and well-governed Town.

3. Very agreeable and improving Company, almost of every Rank.

4. Plenty of all manner of Provisions, whether Fish

or Flesh, good of the Kind, and cheap.

5. Easy Passage to London, either by Land or Wa-

ter, the Coach going through in a Day.

Thomas Fonnereau, Esq; Member of Parliament for Sudbury, has a fine Seat and Park in this Town; the House indeed is built in the antient Taste, but very commodious; 'tis called Christ church, and was a

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Priory, or Religious House, in former Times. The Green and Park is a great Addition to the Pleasantness of this Town, the Inhabitants being allowed to divert themselves there with Walking, Bowling, &c.

In this Park are some of the most beautiful Deer in the Kingdom; they are of a fine white Colour spotted with Black, like Harlequin Dogs, with bald Faces: these, intermixed with the fallow Deer, make a fine

Variety in a Park. 75 an 304 ho 31 11d 32000 a 118/13 pt

I cannot omit in this Place the following Account of an excellent Charity for the Relief and Support of the Widows and Orphans of poor Clergymen of the County of Suffolk, which was begun in the Year 1704, by a voluntary Subscription of a small Number of Gentlemen and Clergy, in and about Ipswich and Woodbridge, and has since that time been carried on with success, that the yearly Collection, which in 1704, was but 61, by gradual Advances every Year, amounted in the Year 1740, to 3121, 25, 6d, and in the whole 37 Years, to the Sum of 44161, 9s, 9d, and has gone on equally prosperously ever since.

Besides the yearly Subscriptions, there have been divers Gifts and Legacies given to the said Society, to the Uses above mentioned, to the Amount of 554.

175. which Sum is laid out in South-Sea Annulties, and kept for raising a capital Stock for the general Benefit of the Charity; and the Interest arising from it hath been, and still is, every Year applied to the Relief

and Support of the faid Widows and Orphans.

From Ipswich, I took a Turn to Hadley, famous for the Martyrdom of Dr. Rowland Taylor, who was burnt at Aldham-Common, Anno 1555. On the Place where he was martyred, I observed a Stone, with this Inscription:

Anno 1555.

Dr. Taylor, for defending what was good,
In this Place shed his Blood.

It has been a Town Corporate, governed by a Mayor, &c. But a 2no Warranto being brought against their Charter, in the Reign of King James II. it has not been renewed fince. Here are two weekly Markets, and two annual Fairs. It deals much in Corn, and abounds with all manner of Provisions. The Town is large, and tolerably well built; but being in a Bottom, is generally dirty. Its Church is a handsome Building, graced with a Spire Steeple; and being near the Middle of the Town, is an Ornament to it. 'Tis of some Note still for the Manusacture of Woolen Cloths, but not of so much as it was formerly.

A little to the South-west lies Weyland, a large Market town, in a Bottom, upon the Stoar, over which is a good Bridge. The Bays trade is carried on

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Higher up to the North-well frands Sudbury, lituate upon the fame River, which is now made navigable for Barges from Maningther hither, and gives a great Addition to their Trade. It is a very ancient Town, governed by a Mayor; and at prefent confifts of three diffined Parithes, which have each an handfome and large Church; though one of them is rather a Chapel of Pale. This Town is pretty well built, but the Streets, being unpaved, are dirty. It has an handsome Bridge over the Brour, leading into Effex. This Town was one of the first Places where King Edward III. placed the Flemings, whom he allured hither to teach the English the Art of manufacturing their own Wool, of which before they knew nothing; and here the Woolen Trade hath continued ever fince in a flourithing Way. The Inhabitants at present employ the infelves in making Says, Perpetuanas, &c.

Simon Theobald, surnamed Sudbury, Archbishop of Canterbury, translated thither from London, Anno 1375. was a Native of this Town. He was murdered at

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the Infligation of one John Ball, a seditious and fanatical Preacher in Wat Tyler's Rebellion. He was a Prelate of good Character for Learning and Charity. He built the upper End of St. Gregory's Church in Sudbury, where his Head is still shewn: it was, not long since, intire, covered with the Flesh and Skin dried by Art, the Mouth wide open, occasioned by Convulsions thro' the hard Death he died, having suffered eight Blows before his Head was cut off. He founded in the Place where his Father's House stood a neat College, which he furnished with Secular Priests and other Ministers, and likewise endowed it bountifully.

Near Sudbury is Melford, a pleasant Village, and perhaps the largest in England, being about a Mile in Length. The Church is a fine Edifice, and stands at the North-end of it. Melford has an annual Fair, divers good Inns, many handsome Houses, and creditable Inhabitants. Here lived the unhappy Mr. Drew, who, in the Year 1739, was barbarously murdered; and his Son, Mr. Charles Drew, executed for it; who effected it either with his own Hands, or by those of another Person, whom he procured to do it, for the sake of enjoying his Estate. This Parricide was at-

tended with Circumstances of great Horror.

In my Way from hence to St. Edmund's bury, I passed due North through Lavenham, or Lanham, a pretty good Town, standing upon a Branch of the River Breton. It has a spacious Market-place, which was formerly of much better Account than at present. It had many Years ago great Advantage from its Trade in blue Cloths; but though this is lost, yet it has a good Trade for Serges, Shalloons, Says, &c. made here; spins a great deal of fine Yarn for London, and has of late slourished much, by setting up an Hall for selling Wool, the Town being conveniently situated for that Purpose.

The Church and Steeple here are justly accounted the finest in the County. It is situate on an Hill on

Suffolk. GREAT BRITAIN. 33
the West-side of the Town, the Steeple being 137
Feet high.

East of Lavenbam, and pretty near it, is Bildeston, a Market-town, noted for the Clothing-trade, its good

Church, its mean Buildings, and Dirtiness.

Bury St. Edmunds, is situate on the West-side of the River Lack, which within these sew Years has been made navigable from Lynn to Fornham, a Mile North of the Town. It is so regularly built, that almost all the Streets cut one another at Right Angles. It stands on an easy Ascent, and overlooks a fruitful inclosed Country on the South and South-west; on the North and North-west the most delightful champain Fields, which extend themselves to Lynn, and that Part of the Norfolk Coast; and on the East the Country is partly inclosed, and partly open. No wonder then that it is called the Montpelier of Suffolk, and even of England: and indeed a certain antient Author says no more than it deserves; "That the Sun shines not upon a "Town more agreeable in its Situation."

It is governed by an Alderman, who is their chief Magistrate, a Recorder, 12 capital Burgesses, and 24 common Burgesses; and sends two Members to Par-

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It has two plentiful weekly Markets on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and three annual Fairs; one three Days before and three Days after the Feast of St. Matthew; and it is generally protracted to an uncertain Length, for the Diversion of the Nobility and Gentry that resort to it in great Numbers.

The Abbey, once so famous, was first built of Wood by Sigebert King of the East-Angles, soon after Christianity was planted here; and when finished, (about the Year 638) that King retired into it, and

thut himfelf from the World.

King Edmund, from whom the Town takes its Name, began to reign over the East-Angles Anno 855. in the 14th Year of his Age, and reigned 15 Years; C 5 being

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being killed Anno 870. as supposed, at Hoxne, at 20 Years old, and his Corpse was 33 Years after removed to Bury. The Abbey was much enriched thereby, and the Monks, who were of the Benedictine Order, found means, about the Year 1020, to get it intirely to themselves, excluding the Seculars; and King Canute, in the 4th Year of his Reign, founded a more magnificent Church, in Honour of St. Edmund, which was finished in 12 Years, and dedicated to Christ, St. Mary, and St. Edmund.

Uvius Prior of Hulm, who was confecrated the first Abbot, Anno 1020, got the Abbey exempted from Episcopal Jurisdiction, and encompassed that and the Town with a Wall and Ditch; the Ruins of which, in feveral Places, are still to be feen: and the Abbots afterwards were made Parliamentary Barons. But in the Reign of King Henry VIII. it ran the common Fate of all Religious Houses, and that Prince put an End to

all its Glory.

When the Abbey was in its Prosperity, there was a Chapel at every one of the five Gates, and the Town abounded with Chapels and Oratories. 'Tis possible these might be Hospitals: for there was an Hospital of St. Peter's without Risby-gate; an Hospital of St. Saviour's without North-gate; an Hospital of St. Nicholas at or near East-gate; and God's house, or St. Yohn's, at the South gate; a College of Priests with a Gild to the Holy or Sweet Name of Jesus, the Situation of which I could not find; and an House of Grey-Friars at Babwell, or the Toll gate. But at this time there are only two Churches, which indeed are very beautiful and stately, and stand in the same Church-yard; the one dedicated to St. Mary, the other built in the Reign of Edward VI. to St. James. The latter has a convenient Library; and at the West-end of the South Ayle are interred the Bodies of the late Lord Chief Baron Reynolds, and his Lady, to whose Memories two large Monuments are erected. The Church

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The other most remarkable public Buildings are the Abbey-gate, which is still a fine Monument of what the Abbey once was; the Guild-hall; the Wool-hall; the Shire-house; the Market-cross; and the Gram-

mar-school, endowed by King Edward VI.

Such as is the Town for Situation, is the Neighbourhood and Gentry about it for Politeness; and no Place

glories in handsomer Ladies, or better Families.

In the Path-way between the two Churches it was that Arundel Coke, a Barrister at Law, in the Year 1721, attempted (with the Affiftance of one Woodbourne, a barbarous Affaffin) an unheard of Outrage on his Brother-in-law, Edward Crifp, Esq; for the sake of possessing what he had. He had invited him, his Wife and Family, to Supper with him; and in the Night, on Pretence of going to fee a Friend to them both, he led him into the Church-yard, when, on a Signal he gave, the Affaffin made at Mr. Crifp with an Hedgebill, and in a most terrible manner mangled his Head and Face; and, supposing him dead, there left him; and Coke returned, as if he knew nothing of the Matter, to the Company. But it happening that Mr. Crifp was not killed, and coming back to Coke's House to the Company all bloody, and cruelly mangled, the shocking Sight amazed and confounded them all; Coke, that he was not dead; the rest, that he had met with fo strange a Difaster. Mr. Crifp survived this Outrage many Years, and Coke and Woodbourne the hired Affassin, were justly executed for a Villainy so detestable, that it hardly had its Parallel. The Gentleman not being killed, the Affaffins were tried and condemn-

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ed on the Statute for defacing and dismembring, called The Coventry Act: And Coke was so good a Lawyer, and so hardened a Wretch, that he thought to have saved himself, by pleading, that he intended not to deface, but to kill. Some nice People say, the Law was a little strained in their Punishment, as the Gentleman recovered; but, surely, if in any Case the Letter might be dispensed with, and the Spirit be brought in Aid of it, it was right in this: And it would have been next to a national Disgrace, not to have a Law that would reach so flagrant and complicated a Wickedness.

There is little or no Manufacturing in this Town, except Spinning; the chief Business of the Place depending upon the neighbouring Gentry, who cannot fail to cause Trade enough by the Expence of their Families and Equipages, among the People of a Country Town. Edward I. and Edward II. had each a Mint at Bury, and some of their Penies coined there are yet remaining. Stow, in his Survey of London, says, That here was also a Mint in King John's

Time.

This Place has been famous for feveral Conventions of the Nobility and Parliaments. The Barons made their League here against King John. A Parliament was held here in the Reign of Henry III. and another in that of Edward I. In the Reign of Edward III. the Townsmen broke open the Abbey, carried off its Treafures, Books, and Charters, and made the Abbot and Monks their Prisoners, till they had sealed a Charter of Incorporation for the Town, and given in the Cuffody of all the Town-gates, and the Wardship of all its Orphans; but 19 of the Rioters were executed, the Town fined 60,000l. and all the Writings that had been extorted from the Abbot made void. Parliament was also held here in the Year 1447, in the 25th Year of Henry VI. At a Meeting of this Parliament, the good Humphry, Duke of Gloucester, Regent of the Kingdom, during the Absence of King Henry ed

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Henry V. and in the Minority of Henry VI. and, to his last Hour, the Safeguard of the Nation and Darling of the People, was basely murdered here; by whose Death the Gate was opened to that dreadful War between the Houses of Lancaster and York, which ended in the Destruction of the very Race which are supposed to have contrived that Murder.

As I made some Stay at Ipswich and Bury, being obliged to wait the Leisure of a Gentleman, who accompanied me Part of this Journey, I made several Excursions more inland than I had at first intended when I set out, and visited the following Towns:

As, first, Boxford, which is about seven Miles from Sudbury, and is a neat and well-built Village, and carries on a considerable Traffick. Queen Elizabeth founded here a Grammar Free-school.

At Bures on the Stour King Edward was crowned, and not at Bury. It has a good Bridge on that River. Anno 1733, the Spire of the Steeple of the handsome Church here was burnt by Lightening, the Bell-frames destroyed, and the Bells melted.

Clare is fituate on the Stour, about 14 Miles from Bury, and is but a poor Town, and dirty, the Streets being unpaved. But yet the Civil and Spiritual Courts are held at it, and it has a good Church; and shews still the Ruins of a strong Castle, and an old Monastery. It has a Manusacture of Says, and gives Title of Marquis to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle of the Pelham Family, as it did to that of Holles before.

Not far from Clare is Honedon, where, in the Year 1687, the Sexton digging a Grave, found a large Quantity of Saxon Coins.

Cavendish upon the Stour deserves Mention, for giving Name to the noble Family of the Dukes of Devonshire.

Haverhill stands partly in Essex and partly in Suffolk. By the Ruins of a Church and Castle still to be seen here, it appears to have been of greater Consequence

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quence formerly than at prefent. Now I am at this

Place, I shall just mention

Ledgate, on account of its giving Birth and Name to the famous Poet, Orator, Mathematician, and Philosopher, John Ledgate, who died in 1440. Here are

to be feen the Ruins of a strong Castle.

Stoke juxta Neyland has a fair Church and Steeple, Giffard's-hall, in this Parish, is a noble old Seat belonging to Sir Francis Mannock, Bart. And Pendering-hall was the Seat of the late Sir John Williams, Alderman of London.

Stratford is a thoroughfare Village of great Traffick,

and is employed in the Woolen Manufactures.

Esterbergholt, near four Miles from Stratford, and half a Mile North of the Stour, is a large and handsome Village, employed in the Woolen Way, but not to so great a Degree as formerly. It has a good Church, but the Steeple is in Ruins, and the Bells are rung by Hand, in a kind of Cage, set up in the Church-yard. A little South of the Church is an elegant House of Sir Joseph Hankey, Alderman of London.

Needham is a thoroughfare Town, about nine Miles North-west from Ipswich. It is tolerably well built, has several considerable Dealers in it, and formerly carried on a large Trade in the Woolen Manusactures,

which it has loft for fome Years.

Stow-market, about three Miles from Needham, is a tolerable Town, with a spacious Church, and Spire-Steeple.

And five Miles farther, being eight from Bury, is Wulpit, famous for the white Bricks made there. It

has an handsome Church and Spire Steeple.

At Norton, near Wulpit, King Henry VIII. was induced to dig for Gold. He was disappointed, but the

Diggings are visible at this Day.

Ixworth, about seven Miles from Bury, is a dirty illbuilt Town, with a mean Market; but is a thoroughfare Town, and has two annual Fairs.

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Botsdale is a long, mean-built, dirty, thorough-fare Town; yet it is remarkable for a Grammar Free-school, sounded by Sir Nicholas Bacon, and established by Queen Elizabeth. The Master and Usher are to be elected out of Bennet College Cambridge, where Sir Nicolas was educated. The Master enjoys a Salary of 201. per Annum, besides the Benefit of the School house, and the Usher 81. with a House and Yard. The School-house was in the Gift of the late Edmund Britisfe, Esq; Sir Nicolas also bequeathed 201. a Year to the said College for six Scholars out of this School, to whom likewise Archbishop Tenison was said to have given six Pounds annually. There is mean Market here every Thursday, and an annual Fair on Holy Thursday.

Malden-ball, about 10 Miles North-west from Bury, is situate on the River Larke; it is a Town of very extensive Limits, pleasant and well-built, and has a fine Church, and losty Steeple. It has a plentiful Friday Market, and a very considerable annual Fair, which lasts four Days. A little North of the Church is the Mansion-house of Sir Thomas Hanner, Bart. who, in the Reign of Queen Anne was Speaker of the House of Commons. In the Year 1507, a great Part of this

Town was confumed by Fire.

Ickworth was once a Parish, but now is a noble Park, in which is the Seat of the Earl of Bristol. This Park is full of fine Timber, and there are a great Number of the fine Harlequin Deer, which I mentioned to be in Mr. Fonnereau's Park near Ipswich. These were the only Parks in England, in which these beautiful Deer were to be found; but from these, divers curious Noblemen have been supplied with some of them. It is a Place of great Antiquity, and what confirms it is, what that learned Antiquarian Dr. Battley, writes, That in his Memory a large Pot of Roman Money was found here.

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Debenham, 12 Miles North of Ipswich, is a tolerably clean, though mean-built Town, and among very dirty and heavy Roads, being seated on an Hill. The Church is a good Building, the Market place tolerable, and there is a Free-school, founded by Appointment of Sir Robert Hitcham.

Mendlesham is a dirty and poor Town, but has an handsome Church, and a small Tuesday's Market.

Eye is a Town Corporate, governed by two Bailiffs, ten principal Burgesses, and 24 Common-councilment sends two Members to Parliament, and gives Title of Baron to the Lord Cornwa'lis. It is situate in a Bottom between two Rivers, is meanly built, and the Streets dirty. Near the West end of the Church are still to be seen some of the ruinous Walls of the Castle.

My Friend, having finished his Business in those Parts of Suffolk which lie round the Towns of Bury and Ipswich, gave me an Opportunity of resuming my Journey according to the Plan I laid down at the Beginning of the Letter: and so from the former of these Town I returned, by Stow market and Needham, to Ipswich, that I might keep as near the Coast as was proper to my designed Circuit; having determined to take the Opportunity, which he told me his Affairs would give me, of making two or three Excursions from Woodbridge, Aldborough, and Southwould, to make my Observations on that Part of Suffolk which have not yet touched upon. From Ipswich therefore went to Woodbridge, and from thence to Orford on the Sea Coast.

Woodbridge is a Market-town, fituated on the Rivet Deben, about 11 Miles from the Sea. This Rivet being navigable to the Town for Ships of confiderable Burden, it drives a pretty good Trade with Holland, Newcastle, and London; and has Passage-Hoys, that go to and return from London weekly. It has a fine Church and Steeple, and traded formerly in Sacks

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k. th, cloth, and now in refining Salt. The Shire-hall is an handsome Pile of Building, where the Quarte:fessions for this Part of the County are held, and under it is the Corn-cross. One Street in it, called Stoneflreet, is well built and paved: but the rest are dirty. The Market-place is also well enough built; but the rest of the Town is mean. The Quays and Warehouses are very commodious; and here is a Grammar school, and an Alms-house, erected in 1587, by Thomas Seckford, Master of the Requests, for thirteen Men and three Women, which is well endowed. It has a pretty good Market on Wednesdays, and two annual Fairs.

Walton has been an antient Market-town, and, though the Market is now difused, the Cross is still remaining. In the neighbouring Parish of Felix flow, on the Cliff from the Sea, and about a Mile from the Coln Side of Woodbridge-haven, are discerned the Ruins of a quadrangular Castle advantageously situated; of which nothing now remains but the Foundation of one Side of the Wall. The rest has been devoured by the Sea; and in all Probability these Remains must in a few Years undergo the fame Fate. It was built principally of Rock-stones; but the many Roman Bricks still to be seen, and Roman Coins which have been discovered among the Ruins of the Side Walls, as they have been washed away by the Sea in the present Age, are an undeniable Evidence, that it was a Place of confiderable Antiquity, probably a Roman Colony, which might give Name to the Hundred of Colnies, in which it flood.

Now begins that Part, which is ordinarily called High Suffolk; which, being a rich Soil, is for a long way wholly employed in Dairies; and famous for the best Butter, and perhaps the worst Cheese, in England: The Butter is barreled, and sometimes pickled up in small Casks, in which it keeps so well, that I have known a Firkin of Suffolk Butter sent to the West Indies,

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and brought back to England again, perfectly good and fweet.

From hence turning down to the Shore, we fee Orfordness, a noted Point of Land for the Guide of the Colliers and Coasters, and a good Shelter for them to ride under, when a strong North-east Wind blows,

and makes a foul Shore on the Coast.

Orford is fituate on the North-west Side of the River Ore, whence it had its Name. It was formerly a Town of good Account, having a strong Castle of reddish Stone for its Defence, of which, and of a Benedistine Nunnery near the Quay, are still to be feen The Sea has fo much withdrawn confiderable Ruins. itself from this Town, that it is robbed of its chief Advantage, and deferves not the Name of an Harbour, The Town is mean, and no one contends for an Interest in it, but such as want to make themselves a Merit in the Choice of the two Members which it returns to Parliament. It is a Town Corporate, and is governed by a Mayor, 8 Portmen, and 12 Burgeffes; it has also a mean Monday Market, and an annual Fair. It had the Honour to give Title of Earl to the brave Admiral Ruffel: which, being many Years extinct, was revived in the Person of Sir Robert Walpole, whole Grandson now enjoys it.

About three Miles from Orford is Aldburgh, a Town pleasantly fituated in a Valley. It has two Streets, each near a Mile long; but its Breadth, which was more considerable formerly, is not proportionable, and the Sea has of late Years swallowed up one whole Street. The Town, though meanly built, is clean, and well peopled in the Seasaring Way. The Sea washes the East-side of it, and the River Ald runs not far from the South-end of it, affording a good Quay. In the adjacent Seas, Sprats, Soals, and Lobsters, are caught in abundance. The Town trades to Newcassle for Coals; and from hence Corn is exported. The Manor of Aldburgh, as also the Manors of Scots and

Taskards

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Taskards in the Neighbourhood, formerly belonged to the Monastery of Snape, and were first granted, with that Monastery, to Cardinal Wolsey, and soon after to Thomas Duke of Norfolk. Aldburgh is pretty well situated for Strength, and has several Pieces of Cannon for its Desence. The Church, which is a good Edifice, stands on an Hill a little West of the Town. It is a Town Corporate, governed by two Bailiss, ten capital Burgesses, and 24 inferior Officers; and sends two Members to Parliament.

From Aldburgh, I passed through Saxminden, a little dirty Market town, to Dunwich, a very antient I own, which, by Roman Coins dug up there, is supposed to have been a Roman Station. In the Reign of William I. it was so considerable a Place, that it had 130 Burgesses, and was valued to that King at 501. and 60,000 Herrings. We read, that in the Reign of Henry II. it was a very samous Village, well stored with Riches, and fortisted with a Rampart, some Remains of which still appear: It is governed by two Bailiss, and sends two Members to Parliament.

Before these times, in the Reign of King Sigebert, Anno 630. Dunwich was a Bishop's See; and so continued till William I. made his Chaplain Bishop of it, and translated the See to Thetford, which was afterwards translated from thence to Norwich.

There were several Religious Houses in Dunwich, and some pretend no less than fifty Churches: But there is a certain Account of six Parish-Churches, and three Chapels, besides the several Religious Houses. Four of these Parish-churches, and the three Chapels, have been long devoured by the Sea; and one of the others met with the same Fate in this Age, so that there is only one now standing; and what remains of this once samous Place, is but a pitiful Parcel of sorry Cottages, yet it sends two Members to Parliament.

Hereabouts they begin to talk of Herrings, and the Fishery. And here also, and at Swole or Southwould,

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the next Sea port, they cure Sprats in the same Man.

ner as they do Herrings at Yarmouth.

From Dunwich we went to Southwould, pleafantle fituated on an Hill, and almost surrounded with the Sa and the River Blyth, over which it has a Bridge. It drives a confiderable Trade in Salt and old Beer, and in Herrings, Sprats, &c. The Coast lies due North from Orfordness to Southwould; a bold Shore, and fafe Anchoring all the Way. A little to the South of the Place last mentioned, the Sea breaking in upon the Shore makes a Creek, which, when entered spreading out divides to Dunwich, Southwould, and Walderswick While the Town of Dunwich retained any Trade, the laboured incessantly, (her very Existence depending upon it) to diffress Southwould; till, to end the Dispute, the latter was incorporated by Henry VII. Town of Southwould, which, like Dunwich, stands on a Cliff, at the coming in of the Tide is almost furrounded by the Ocean. It has fome Share of Commerce from its Situation; and, whenever the River Blyth, which falls into the Creek before described, shall be rendered navigable, (to effect which an Ad passed in the Year 1757) it cannot but be of great Benefit, as well to the Town as to the Country about The free British Fishery, established within these few Years by Act of Parliament, revived the Courage of its Inhabitants, and has been in many respects ferviceable to the Place; more particularly in recommending it to the Notice of the Legislature, in confequence of which an Act passed Anno 1746-7, for opening, cleanfing, repairing and improving the Haven, to be in Force for 21 Years: but that not having an swered the desired End, another Act was passed for enlarging the Term to 21 Years more, and for amending and altering the Powers granted by the former Ad; which, it is hoped, will complete the intended Purpoles.

Southwould is a Member of the Port of Yarmouth; and Walberfwick, commonly written Walderfwick, is a

Creek

Creek to Southwould. At present these Places are but little regarded, but our Posterity will, from Experience, discover, that a navigable River and good Harbour deserve to be purchased here, though at a considerable Expence.

The Bay before the Town, antiently called from thence Soul-bay, now commonly, the corruptly, Solebay, was a frequent Station of the Royal Navy during the Dutch Wars, and is memorable for two famous Sea-fights, the former, June 3, 1665, and the latter May 28, 1672, both to the Ditadvantage of the Dutch.

This Bay was formerly bounded by Easton-ness, so called because supposed to be the most Eastern point of this Coast, and another Cape to the South-east of Dunwich; but the Sea having removed these Marks, it may now be said to leave Covehith-ness, with the Burnet, a Sand lying before it, on the North, and Thorp-ness on the South, a very commodious Road for Ships, and justly samous for its Fishery, particularly for Soals, which, in point of Size and Flavour, are not inferior to any caught upon the Coast of the Island.

The Traffick of my Friend at Woodbridge, Aldburgh, and this Place, gave me the Opportunity I hinted at, of making Excursions into the main inland Parts of Suffolk, adjacent to those Towns, which I shall transcribe from my Memorandum-book, in the Order I set

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Ufford, two Miles North-east of Woodbridge, is at present of no great Remark; but for the Ruins of a

Chapel, called Sogenboc Chapel.

In the Hundred of Hartsmere stands Broome, a noble old Mansion, which for many Ages has been the Seat of the noble Family of Cornwallis. In this Parish of Broome is an Alms-house for poor Widows, fronting the Hall; but not endowed.

Wickham Market is fituated about four Miles from Woodbridge. The Church is built on an Hill, and, though the Steeple be but 23 Yards high, affords the best Prospect of any in Suffolk; for, in a clear Day,

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near 50 Parish churches may be seen from it. It is now only a Village, but has some Trade, and the Civil

and Spiritual Courts are held in it.

Snape was once noted for a famous Monastery, sew Remains of which are now to be seen. It has a considerable annual Fair for Horses, which lasts four Days, beginning August 11, to which the London Jockies refort.

At Sudbourne is a fine Seat of the Lord Viscount Hereford.

At Easton is the Seat of the Earl of Rochford.

Letheringham was of Note for a little Priory, which was obtained at the Dissolution by Sir Antony Wingfield, and Sir Henry Spelman tells us, that, as a Judgment for the Sacrilege, he died without Issue Male. It was converted into a Mansion house, and is now the Seat of the antient Family of the Nauntons. Sir Roger Naunton was in the Reign of King James I. Secretary of State, and Master of the Court of Wards and Liveries. He died Anno 1630. In the Abbey is a long Gallery, adorned with several valuable Pictures: and in Letheringham Church are some elegant Monuments of the Wing fields and Nauntons.

Rendelsham was antiently famous for being the Royal Residence of Redwald King of the East Angles. Hugh Fitz-Otho procured a Market and Fair for this Town from King Edward I. Digging here about 60 Years ago; an ancient Silver Crown was found, weighing about 60 Ounces, supposed to have belonged to Redwald, or some other King of the East-Angles; which was sold, and melted down for the sake of the Metal.

At Butley two Miles West of Orford, was a Priory of Canons Regular; founded by Ranulph de Glanville, Chief Justice of England, to the Honour of the Blessed Virgin. The Ruins of the Abbey, which are still to be seen, shew it to have been very large; and the Gate-house is a magnificent Building: it remains in tire.

best Prospect of any in Signale ; for, in a clear Div.

tire, and is embellished in the Front with many Coats

of Arms, finely cut in Stone.

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Framlingham, fituate North-west of Aldburgh, is a large Town, well-built, and pleasantly seated near the Head of the River Ore; it has a spacious Marketplace; the Church is built of black Flint, and is a very flately and noble Edifice, wherein several of Mowbrays, Dukes of Norfolk, lie buried. The Castle is a fair Piece of Antiquity, being a large, beautiful, and strong Building; and contains within the Walls now standing an Acre I Rood II Perches, and was formerly, much larger. Its Walls are 44 Feet high, very thick, and pretty intire; and it has 13 Towers, 14 Feet higher than the Walls, two of which are Watchtowers. It was both by Art and Nature formerly very strong, there are two good Alms houses, and a Free-school, founded by Sir Robert Hitcham (who is interred in the Church), for 40 poor Boys, who are taught to read, write, and cast Accompts; and 10%. is given to fettle each of them Apprentice. This Gentleman bought of the Duke of Norfolk the Castle, Manor, &c. and gave them to Pembroke hall in Cam-To this Castle Queen Mary I. retired, when the Lady Jane was proclaimed Queen by the Northumberland Faction.

Halesworth, North-east of Framlingham, is a large and good Market-town, situate upon the River Blyth, which runs through it. The Streets are clean, and partly paved. It has a very neat Church, beautifully decorated within; and is noted for Linen-yarn, which

is spun in the Neighbourhood.

Blithburg, four Miles East of Halesworth, was formerly a Place of good Note; but now has nothing to recommend it but its Church, which is a fine old

Building, and kept in good Repair.

Hoxne is the Place where Edmund, King of the East-Angles was murdered by the Pagan Danes, because he would not renounce his Faith, in the Year

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870. and his Body was removed to Bury, as mentioned before.

Bungay is delightfully fituated on the River Wave. ney, which, being navigable from Yarmouth, is a Bene. fit to its Trade. It is a Borough-town (in the Hun. dred of Wangford), well-built, and confifts of two diffinct Parishes, with two Parith-churches answering to the Largeness of the Town, one of which is a sump. tuous Structure (wherein is erected a fine double Organ); and its beautiful Steeple (in which is a Ring of eight Bells) is an Ornament to the Town. Between these two Churches are to be seen the Ruins of a Benedictine Nunnery. Here also remain the Ruins of a very strong Castle, supposed to have been built by the Bigods Earls of Norfolk. Here is a Market weekly on Thursdays, well served with all manner of Provisions, There is also a large Common belonging to the Town, which is of great Advantage to the Inhabitants : on this Common is a Race ground, which is kept in good Order. This whole Town, (except one small Street) was destroyed by Fire March 1, 1688-9, the Loss was computed at 29,8961. and upwards.

The Castle was so strong, that Hugh Bigad Earl of Norfolk, its Owner, in the Wars between the Empress Maud and King Stephen (with the latter of whom he

fided) made this Boast upon it :

Were I in my Castle of Bungay, Upon the River Waveney, I would not care for the King of Cockney.

But he was afterwards forced to compound with King Henry II. for its Preservation. Here is a Grammat-school, with ten Scholarships for Emanuel College, Cambridge.

In this Excursion I stretched to Beccles, still farther North east; a large ill-built Market-town, situate on the Waveney. It has a fine Church and Steeple;

a Gram.

a Grammar and English-School, well endowed; a plentiful Market, and a Common of above 1000 Acres. The Streets are well paved and clean, but the Houses are but ordinary. The Ruins of another Church, called Ingate Church, are to be seen here, which was formerly the Parish-church to the Town.

In the Church at Beccles is the following remarkable

Epitaph, written in the Law Stile:

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Hic jacet CORPUS Thomæ Wrongey, generost, unius attornatorum domini Regis de Banco apud Westm. Juxta libertates & privilegia ejusdem curiæ, tertio die Aprilis, privilegio suo non obstante, morte arrestatur; hic in sepulcri prisona detinetur; nec aliqua legis subtilitate ab eadem ante generalem gaolæ deliberationem liberandum; cum Christus ad totum terrarum orbem judicandum venerit.

In English thus:

Here lies the Body of Thomas Wrongey, Gent. One of the Attorneys of the King's Bench at Westminster. According to the Liberties and Privileges of the same Court, on the third Day of April, his Privilege notwithstanding, it was arrested by Death, and is here detained in the Prison of the Grave. From whence it shall not by any Quirk be again delivered before the general Goal-delivery, when Christ shall come to judge the whole World.

Burgh costle, situate at the Mouth of the Waveney, was a Place of considerable Note in the Time of the Romans. The Walls on the East, North, and South Sides, are still standing, pretty intire. The River, being a Desence on the West, no Wall was wanting there.

I returned from these Excursions to Southwould, in order to proceed on my Journey, according to my first Plan.

At this Town in particular, and so at all the Towns on this Coast, from Orfordness to Yarmouth, is the or-Vol. I.

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dinary Place where our Summer Friends the Swallows first land, when they come to vifit us; and here they may be faid to begin their Voyage, when they go back into warmer Climates. I was some Years before at this Place, about the Beginning of October; and, lodg. ing in an House that looked into the Church yard, I observed in the Evening an unusual Multitude of Swallows fitting on the Leads of the Church, and covering the Tops of feveral Houses round about. This led me to enquire what was the Meaning of fuch a prodigious Multitude of Swallows fitting there? I was answered, That this was the Seafon when the Swallows, their Food failing here, began to leave us, and return to the Country, wherever it be, from whence they came; and that, this being the nearest Land to the opposite Coast, and the Wind contrary, they were waiting for a Gale, and might be faid to be Wind bound.

This was more evident to me, when in the Morning I found the Wind had come about to the Northwest in the Night, and there was not one Swallow to

be feen.

Certain it is, that the Swallows neither come hither merely for warm Weather, nor retire merely from Cold: they (like the Shoals of Fish in the Sea) pursue their Prey; being a voracious Creature, and feeding as they fly; for their food is the Insects, of which, in our Summer Evenings, in damp and moist Places, the Air is full; and, when cold Weather comes in, and kills the Insects, then Necessity compels the Swallows to quit us, and follow their Food to some other Climate.

This passing and repassing of the Swallows is observed no where so much as on this Eastern Coast; namely, from above Harwich to the East Point of Norfolk, called Wintertonness, North; which is opposite to Holland. We know nothing of them any farther North; the Passage of the Sea being, as I suppose, too broad from Flambro' Head, and the Shore of Holderness in

Yorkshire, &c.

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This Part of England is remarkable for being the first where the Feeding and Fattening of Sheep and other Cattle with Turneps was practised in England, which is made a very great Part of the Improvement of their Lands to this Day; and from whence the Practice is spread over most of the East and South Parts of England, to the great Enriching of the Farmers, and Increase of fat Cattle: and though some have objected against the Goodness of the Flesh thus fed with Turneps, and have fansied it would taste of the Root, yet upon Experience it is found, that the Mutton fed upon this wholesome Root is the sweetest which is brought to London.

The County of Suffolk is particularly famous for furnishing the City of London, and all the Counties round, with Turkeys; infomuch that more Turkeys are bred in this County, and the Part of Norfolk that joins to it, for Sale, than in all the rest of England; and they are generally of a larger Size than those which are

bred in any other Part of the Kingdom.

Nor will this be found an inconsiderable Article, if it be true, that 300 Droves of Turkeys have passed, in one Season, over Stratford-bridge, on the River Stour, on the Road from Ipswich to London; each Drove generally containing from 300 to 1000 Turkeys, which at 500, one with another, will be 150,000 in all; and yet the Numbers which are driven by Newmarketheath, and the open Country, and the Forest, and also

those by Sudbury and Clare, are much greater.

For the further Supplies of the Markets of London with Poultry, in which these Countries particularly abound, they have within these few Years found it practicable to make the Geese travel on Foot too, and prodigious Numbers are brought up to London in like Droves from the farthest Parts of Norfolk, even from the Fen-Country, about Lynn, Downham, Wishich, and the Washes; as also from all the East side of Norfolk and Suffolk; and 'tis very frequent now to meet

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generally in August, when the Harvest is almost over, that the Geese may seed on the Stubbles as they go. Thus they hold on to the End of October, when the Roads begin to be too stiff and deep for their broad Feet, and short Legs, to march in.

Besides such Methods of driving these Creatures on Foot, they have invented a new kind of Carriage, being Carts formed on Purpose, with sour Stories of Stages, to put the Poultry in, one above another, whereby one Cart will carry a very great Number; and, for the smoother going, they drive with two Horses abreast, like a Coach; thus quartering the Road for the Ease of the Poultry, and changing Horses, they travel Night and Day; so that they bring the Fowls 70, 80, or 100 Miles in two Days and one Night: the Horses are sastened together by a Piece of Wood lying cross wise upon their Backs, by which they are kept even and together; and the Driver sits on the Top of the Cart, as in the public Carriages for the Army, & c.

In this manner vast Numbers of Turkey-poults and Chickens are carried to London every Year, which yield a good Price at Market; and more out of this County than any other Part of England, which is the

Reason of my speaking of it here.

In this Part, which we call High Suffolk, there are not so many Families of Gentry or Nobility, as in the other Side of the Country: but it is observed, that, though their Seats are not here, their Estates are; and the Pleasure of West Suffolk is much of it supported by by the Wealth of High Suffolk: for the Richness of the Lands, and Application of the People to all Kinds of Improvement, are scarce credible. The Farmers also are so considerable, and their Farms and Dairies so large, that 'tis frequent for a Farmer to have 1000l. Stock upon his Farm in Cows only.

From Southwould, Coast-wise, I proceeded to Leostof, a considerable Market-town, standing near the Sea.

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It is indifferently well-built. The Church, which is fituate near a Mile on the West side of the Town. is a good Building; but, for the Ease of its Inhabitants, there is a Chapel in the Town, wherein divine Service is fometimes celebrated. The Ness below the Northend of the Town is the most Eastern Point of Land in Britain. Its principal Trade is Fishing for Herrings and Mackrel. It has a noted Market weekly on Wednesdays; and two small Fairs yearly, the one on the 1st Day of May, and the other on the 29th of September. Besides the present Chapel, here was formerly, at the South end of the Town, a Chapel called Goodcross Chapel, which hath been long since destroyed by the Sea. This Town, having been Part of the antient Demesnes of the Crown, hath a Charter, and a Townfeal; but the greatest Privilege it now enjoys from its Charter, is, that of its Inhabitants not ferving on Juries, either at the Sessions or Assizes.

I saw a beautiful Monument of that excellent Judge Sir John Holt, at Redgrave, the Family-seat, with the

following Inscription upon it:

M. S.

D. Johannis Holt, Equitis Aur.
Totius Angliæ in Banco Regis
per 21 Annos continuos
Capitalis Justitiarii;

Gulielmo Regi, Annæque Reginæ, Confiliarii perpetui;

Libertatis ac Legum Anglicarum Assertoris, Vindicis, Custodis, Vigilis, Acris, & Intrepidi,

Rolandus Frater Unicus & Hæres
Optime de se Merito
Positi.

Die Martii V to. 1709. sublatus est ex Oculis nostris. Natus 30. Decembris, Anno 1640.

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In English thus:

Sacred to the Memory of Sir John Holt, Knight, Lord Chief Justice of the King's-Bench for the Space of .21 Years successively, and of the Privy Council to King William and Queen Anne; a vigilant, penetrating, and intrepid Affertor, Vindicator, and Guardian of the Liberty and Laws of England.

Rowland, his only Brother and Heir, erected this Monument as a Testimony of the strongest Obligations. He departed this Life the 5th of March, in the Year 1709. The Day of his Birth was the 30th of

December, in the Year 1640.

I believe, Sir, you will allow, that I have written enough for one Letter. I will therefore only further add, that I am,

Your bumble Servant.

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## LETTER II.

Containing a Description of the Counties of Norfolk and Cambridge, and that Part of Essex not touched on in the former.

SIR,

ROM High-Suffolk, I passed the Waveney, near Schole Inn; and so came into Norfolk: and here we see a Face of Diligence spread over the whole Country: the vast Manusactures carried on chiefly by the Norwich Weavers employ all the Country round in spinning Yarn for them; and also use many thousand Packs

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Packs of Yarn, which they receive from other Countries, even from as far as Yorkshire and Westmoreland.

This Side of Norfolk is very populous, and filled with a great Number of confiderable Market-towns; infomuch that between the Borders of Suffolk and the City of Norwith on this Side, which is not above 22 Miles in Breadth, are the following Market-towns;

Thetford, Hingham, Harleston,
Dis, West-Deerham, East Deerham,
Harling, Attleborough, Watton,
Bucknam, Windham, Loddon, &c.

Most of these Towns are very populous and large; but that which is most remarkable is, that the whole Country round them is interspersed with Villages so large, and so sull of People, that they are equal to Market-towns in other Counties.

An eminent Weaver of Norwich gave me a Scheme of their Trade on this Occasion, by which, calculating from the Number of Looms at that time employed in the City of Norwich only, he made it appear, that there were 120,000 People busied in the Woolen and Silk Manusactures of that City only: not that the People all lived in the City, though Norwich is very large and populous; but they were employed for spining the Yarn used for such Goods as were all made in that City.

This shews the wonderful Extent of the Norwich Manufacture, or Stuff-weaving Trade, by which so many Families are maintained.

This Throng of Villages continues thro' all the East Part of the County, which is of the greatest Extent, and where the Manusacture is chiefly carried on. If any Part of it be thin of Inhabitants, it is the West Part, drawing a Line from about Brandon, South, to Walsingbam, North. This Part of the County, indeed, is full of open Plains, and somewhat sandy and barren, but

yet feeds great Flocks of Sheep.

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NORWICH is the Capital of the County, and the Centre of all the Trade and Manufactures which I have just mentioned; an antient, large, rich, and populous City. If a Stranger were only to ride thro' or view the City of Norwich on ordinary Days, he would be induced to think it a Town without Inhabitants; but, on the contrary, if he was to view the City, either on a Sabbath day, or on any public Occasion, he would wonder where all the People could dwell, the Multitude is so great: but the Case is this; the Inhabitants, being all busy at their Manufactures, dwell in their Garrets at their Looms, and in their Combing-shops, as they call them, Twisting mills, and other Workhouses; almost all the Works they are employed in being done within Doors.

There are in this City 32 Parishes, besides the Cathedral, and a great many Meeting-houses for Dissenters of all Denominations. The Castle is antient and decayed, and now for many Years past made use

of as a Gaol.

This City, it is faid, was built by the Saxons out of the Ruins of Venta Icenorum, now called Caster, where some Years since were found several Roman Urns. In the time of the Saxons it was the principal Seat of the East-Angles, and was reduced to Ashes by Sueno the Dane. It was re-edified, and Famine only compelled

it to yield to William the Norman.

The famous Rebellion of Kett, the Tanner of Windham, in the Reign of Edward VI. reduced it again to a ruinous State; but it was happily restored by Queen Elizabeth, who sent hither Part of the Flemings that came over from the cruel Persecution of the Duke of Alva; to whose Industry and Example is owing the rich Manusacture of Stuffs for which this City is so famous.

The Walls of this City are reckoned three Miles in Circumference, taking in more Ground than the City of London, within the Walls; but much of that Ground lies

lies open in Pasture-fields and Gardens; nor does it feem to be, like some antient Places, a decayed declining Town, the Walls only marking out its antient Dimensions; for we have not Cause to suppose, that it was ever larger or more populous than it is now. But the Walls seem to be placed, as if it were expected that the City would in time increase sufficiently to fill them up with Buildings. There are 12 large Gates, which give Entrance to the City.

Norwich is governed by a Mayor, Recorder, two Sheriffs, Steward, 24 Aldermen, 60 Common-council, with a Town clerk, Sword-bearer, &c. and fends two

Members to Parliament.

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There are annually chose eight Wardens of the Worsted-weavers, sour out of the City, and sour out of the adjacent Country, who are sworn to take Care that there be no Fraud in the spinning, weaving, or dying the Stuffs. They have a Seat in the Townhall, with this Inscription over it, Worsted Resormed; and there is also a Company of Manusacturers of Woolen, called the Russia Company, who have another Seat in it, with this Inscription, Fidelitas Artis.

The Stocking Manufacture in this Town was com-

puted, several Years ago, at 60,000l. per Ann.

The Cathedral is a fine Fabric, and the Spire-Steeple beautiful, and, next to Salifbury, and the Cupola of St. Paul's, the highest in England. It is not antient, the Bishop's See having been first at Thetford, from whence it was not translated hither till the 12th Century; yet the Church has so many Antiquities in it, that our late great Scholar and Physician, Sir Thomas Brown, thought it worth his while to write a whole Book to collect the Monuments and Inscriptions in this Church, to which I refer the Reader. It had an Hospital in it, for 100 poor Men and Women, and a fine Market-cross. That called Bridewell, is a large and most beautiful Building of square Flint.

D 5

Here is a very fine Market for Corn, Flesh, Fish, and Poultry; all which are generally sold at very reasonable Rates, so that the Woolen Manusacturers can live as cheap here as in most Parts of England. There is also a Place called the Madder-mart, from whence we may conclude, that Madder was formerly cultivated in this County, as it certainly was in many other Parts of England. In short, the Culture of this valuable Dye was discontinued on Account of the many Disputes with the Clergy about Tythes, so that when the Tythe of Madder was determined to be vicarial, it was totally neglected, and our Neighbours the Dutch availed themselves of this, and have for many Years past received between one and two hundred thousand Pounds Sterling from England annually for this Dye.

The River Tare runs through this City, and is navigable thus far without the Help of Locks or Stops; and being increased by other Waters, passes afterwards through a long Track of the richest Meadows, and the largest, take them altogether, that are any where in England, lying for many Miles in Length, from this City to Yarmouth, including the Return of the said Meadows on the Bank of the Waveney, South, and on

the River Thyrn, North.

There are fix large Bridges over the River running through the City, called Hellesden, Cossany, Black-friars, Tye bridge, White-friars, and Bishopsgate, Bridges; and to repair these Bridges, as also the Walls and Gates, and the City Wastes, Staiths, and Wharss (which were become so ruinous, that the ordinary Revenue of the City was insufficient for that Purpose), an Act of Parliament passed in the Year 1725 6, which laid divers Tolls and Imposts on particular Goods and Merchandizes brought up the River Yare.

One thing is proper to be mentioned here, which History accounts not for. It is this: The River Waveney is a confiderable River, and of a deep and full Channel, navigable for large Barges as high as Beccles

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and Bungay; it runs for a Course of about 50 Miles, between the Counties of Suffolk and Norfolk, as a Boundary to both; and pushing forward, though with a gentle Stream, no one would doubt, when they fee the River growing broader and deeper, and going directly towards the Sea, even to the Edge of the Beach, and within a Mile of the main Ocean, but that it would make its Entrance into the Sea at that Place, and afford a noble Harbour for Ships at the Mouth of it; when, on a fudden, the Land rifing high by the Sea-side, crosses the Head of the River, like a Dam, checks the whole Course of it, and it returns, bending its Course West, for two Miles, or thereabouts; and then turning North, through another long Course of Meadows (joining to those just now mentioned), seeks out the River Yare, joins its Water with that, and both find their Way to the Sea together.

Some of our Historians tell a long fabulous Story of this River's being once open, and a famous Harbour for Ships belonging to the Town of Leostof adjoining; but that Yarmouth envying the Prosperity of Leostof, made War upon them; and that after many bloody Battles, as well by Sea as by Land, they came at last to a decisive Action at Sea with their respective Fleets; but the Leostof Fleet being overthrown, and utterly destroyed, the Yarmouth Men either actually stopped up the Mouth of the said River, or obliged the vanquished Leostof Men to do it themselves, and bound them never

to attempt to open it again.

I see no Authority for this Relation, neither do the Relaters agree either in the Time or in the Particulars of the Fact.

In this vast Track of Meadows are fed a prodigious Number of Black Cattle, which are said to produce the sattest Beef, though not the largest, in England; and the Quantity is so great, as that they not only supply the City of Norwich, the Town of Yarmouth, and D 6

the Country adjacent, but fend great Quantities of them

weekly, in all the Winter-feafon, to London.

And this in particular is worthy Remark, That the Gross of all the Scots Cattle, which come yearly into England, are brought to a small Village lying North of the City of Norwich, called St. Faith's, where the

Norfolk Grafiers go and buy them.

These Scots Runts, as they call them, coming out of the cold and barren Mountains of the Highlands in Scotland, feed so eagerly on the rich Pasture in these Marshes, that they thrive in an unusual manner, and grow very fat; and the Beef is so delicious for Taste, that the Inhabitants prefer them to the English Cattle, which are much larger and fairer to look at. Some have told me, and I believe with Truth, that there are above 40,000 of these Scots Cattle fed in this County every Year, and most of them in the Marshes between Norwich, Beccles, and Yarmouth, in which they are fed till Winter, when they are removed into the drier fandy Land, where they constantly have large Crops of Turneps, on which they are fatted; and their Dung is so good Manure to the Land, that they always have a good Crop of Corn afterwards. Before the Grafiers made use of this Manure, there were many Estates in this County, where the Land was lett under five Shillings per Acre, which have fince been lett for twenty.

Norwich; and though not extending over so much Ground, yet better built, and more complete, and for Wealth, Traffick, and Advantages of its Situation, in-

finitely superior to Norwich.

It is fituated on a Peninsula between the River Yare and the Sea; the two last lying parallel to one another, and the Town in the Middle. The River lies on the West-side of the Town, and being grown very large and deep, by receiving all the Rivers on this Side the County, forms the Haven; and the Town facing to the West also, and open to the River, makes the finest

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Quay in England, if not in Europe, at least equalling

that of Marfeilles itself.

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The Ships ride here so close (as it were, keeping up one another, with their Head-fasts on Shore) that, for half a Mile together, they go cross the Stream with their Boltsprits over the Land, their Bows or Heads touching the very Wharf; so that one may walk from Ship to Ship as on a floating Bridge, all along by the Shore fide. The Quay reaching from the Drawbridge almost to the South-gate, is so spacious and wide, that in some Places it is near 100 Yards from the Houses to the Wharf. In this pleasant and agreeable Range of Houses are some magnificent Buildings, and, among the rest, the Custom-house and Town-hall, and some Merchants Houses, which look like little Palaces, rather than the Dwelling-houses of private Men. People are carried here all over the Town, and from the Seafide, for Six-pence, in what they call a Coach, but 'tis only a Wheelbarrow drawn by one Horse, without any

The greatest Desect of this beautiful Town seems to be, that though it is very rich, and increasing in Wealth and Trade, and consequently in People, there is not Room to enlarge it by new Buildings; being precluded on the West and South sides by the River, and on the East-side by the Sea, so that there is no Room but on the North-end without the Gate; and there the Land is not very agreeable: but had they had a larger Space within the Gates, there would before this time have been many spacious Streets of Buildings erected, as is done in some other thriving Towns

in England.

During the Fishing-fair, as they call it, ones sees the Land covered with People, and the River with Barks and Boats, busy Day and Night, landing and carrying off the Herrings, which they catch here in almost incredible Quantities. I happened to be there during their Fishing-fair, when I told, in one Tide, 110 Barks

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Barks and Fishing-vessels, coming up the River, all loaden with Herrings, taken the Night before; and this over and above what was brought on Shore on the Dean, (that is the Sea side of the Town) by open Boats, which they call \* Cobles, and which often bring in two or three + Lasts of Fish at a Time. The 6 Barks often bring ten Lasts apiece.

This Fishing fair begins on Michaelmas-day, and lasts all the Month of October, by which time the Herrings draw off to Sea, thoot their Spawn, and are no more fit for the Merchants Business; at least not those

that are taken hereabouts.

The Quantity of Herrings cured and exported annually from this Town, one Year with another, is 50,000 Barrels: besides which, great Quantities are brought in for the Confumption of the adjacent Country Towns, for 30 Miles from the Sea; to which they are carried every Tide during the whole Seafon. Here is almost as great a Fishing for Mackarel in the Spring, as for Herrings in September.

The Number of Veffels employed by this Town in the Fishery is 150, and between 40 and 50 Sail in the Exportation; which is made to Genoa, Leghorn, Naples, Messina, and Venice, as also to Spain and Portugal: and with them are likewife exported great Quantities of Worsted Stuffs, and Stuffs made of Silk and Worsted, Camlets, &c. the Manufactures of the neighbouring

City of Norwich, and the Places adjacent.

Befides this, they carry on a very confiderable Trade with Holland, exporting a vatt Quantity of Woolen Manufactures every Year. They have also a Fishing-

<sup>\*</sup> The Cobles are open Boats which come from the North, from Scarborough, Whithy, &c. to Yarmouth, to lett themselves out to file for the Merchants during the Fair-time.

<sup>+</sup> A Last is ten Barrels, each Barrel containing 1000 Herrings. The Barks come from the Coast of Kent and Suffex, as from Falle flone, Dover, and Rye, in Kent, and from Brightbelmftone in Suffex ; and lett themselves out to fish for the Merchants during the said Fair, as the Cobles do from the North. trade

trade to the North Seas for White Fish, which from

the Place are called the North Sea Cod.

They have likewise a considerable Trade to Norway, and to the Baltic, from whence they bring back Deals, and Fir-Timber, Oaken Planks, Baulks, Spars, Oars, Pitch, Tar, Hemp, Flax, Canvas, and Sail-cloth, with all manner of Naval Stores, for which they generally

have a Confumption in their own Port.

Add to this the Coal-trade between Newcastle and the River Thames, in which they are so improved of late Years, that they have now a greater Share of it than any other Town in England; and have quite wrought the Ipswich Men out of it, who had formerly the chief Share of the Colliery in their Hands. The Quantity imported, one Year with another, is about 35,000 Chaldrons.

For the carrying on of all these Trades, they have a very great Number of Ships, either of their own, or

employed by them.

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The Quantity of Corn and Malt exported from this Town exceeds that of any Port in England, London not excepted. Of late Years, it has amounted to upwards of 220,000 Quarters per Annum.

Besides Fishing vessels above-mentioned, the Inhabitants of this Town are Owners of about 250 Ships.

The Haven was preserved, and the Piers maintained, by Contribution, till the Time of King Charles II. And it ought to be mentioned to the Honour of the Public-spiritedness of their Ancestors, That in Queen Elizabeth's Time the Town, out of its Corporation-Estate, and publick Treasure, expended 31,000l. a very great Sum in these Days; but a much greater in those. In the Reign of Charles II. an Act passed, giving Power to levy certain Duties for the same good Purposes; and these have been continued by subsequent Acts.

To all this I must add, without Compliment to the Town, that the Merchants, and even the Generality

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of Traders of Yarmouth, have a very good Reputation in Trade, as well Abroad as at Home, for fair and ho. nourable Dealing; and their Seamen, as well Mafters as Mariners, are juftly esteemed among the ablest and

most expert Navigators in England.

This Town, however populous and large, had till lately but one Parish church, dedicated to St. Nicolas, though it is very large. It has an high Spire, which is It was built by that famous Bi. an useful Sea-mark. shop of Norwich, William Herbert, who flourished in the Reign of William II. and Henry I. William of Malmfbury calls him Vir pecuniofus, from the Works of Charity and Munificence, which he has left as Witnesses of his immense Riches; for he built the Cathe. dral Church, the Priory for 60 Monks, the Bishop's Palace, and the Parish-church of St. Leonard, all in Norwich; this great Church at Yarmouth, the Church of St. Margaret at Lynn, and of St. Mary at Elmham. He removed the Episcopal See from Thetford to Norwich, and inflituted the Cluniac Monks at Thetford, and gave them, or built them, an House.

But in the Reigns of Queen Anne, and King George I. two Acts passed for building a new Church or Chapel of Ease in Yarmouth, and for enlightening the Streets of the Town, and other Purposes; all which is performed in so complete a manner, as to be worthy of the Place.

Also in the Act which passed in the Year 1723, and which has been fince renewed, Provision was made for preserving of Ships wintering in the Haven from Accidents by Fire. This Provision was a very necessary one; for the Haven is fo very commodious for the fecure and fafe lying of Ships in the Winter-feafon, that feveral hundred Sail are yearly laid up and winter in it, which lie so contiguous to one another, and so near the Houses, that, in case of Fire, not only the Ships, but the Town would be in Danger of being totally destroyed. Here

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Here is one of the finest Market-places, and the best served with Provisions, in England, London excepted. The Streets are all exactly strait from North to South, the Lanes or Alleys, which they call Rows, crossing them in strait Lines also from East to West; so that it is the most regular-built Town in England, and seems as if it had been erected all at once, upon an uniform Plan.

The Corporation sends two Members to Parliament, and consists of a Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Chamberlain, Burgesses, and Town clerk; and is a Court of Record, and of Admiralty: in the first they try Civil Causes for unlimited Sums; and in the other have a Power to try, condemn, and execute, without waiting for a Warrant from above. This Power they exerted once, in executing a Captain of one of the King's Ships of War in the Reign of King Charles II. for a Murder committed in the Street; the Circumstance of which did indeed call for Justice: but some thought they would not have ventured to exert it, as they did. However, I never heard, that the Government resented it, or blamed them for it.

This Town is bound by its Charter, granted by Henry III. to fend to the Sheriff of Norwich every Year, a Number of Herrings baked in 24 Pasties, which are to be delivered to the Lord of the Manor of East-Carlton, who is to give a Receipt for them, and then

to carry them to the King.

It is a well-governed Town; and I have no where in England observed the Sabbath day more strictly kept, or the Breach of it so constantly punished, as in this

Place; which I mention to their Honour.

Clay and Blackney are regarded jointly as a Part of Yarmouth; Clay is looked upon as the principal Place, though Blackney gives Name to that Creek which supplies them both with an Harbour. They have between them 15 Sail of small Vessels, and it may be 60 Fishing-boats. It is thought they export 20,000 Quarters

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of Malt and hard Corn, and carry at least as much Coast-wise; they bring in about 6000 Chaldrons of Coals, and the Remainder of their Trade consists in Deals, Balks, Fir-timber, Pantiles, and Iron. One would imagine that Clay was in a better Condition in 1406, when James, Son of Robert III. King of Scots, and himself afterward King James I. was brought in Prisoner there, being taken at a great Distance by a Ship of Force.

From Yarmouth I resolved to pursue my first Design; to wit, to view the Sea-side on this Coast, which is particularly noted for being one of the most dangerous and most fatal to Sailors in all Britain; and the more so, because of the great Number of Ships, which are continually going and coming this Way, in their Passage between London and all the Northern Coasts of

Britain.

The Reason of which is, that the Shore from the Mouth of the River Thames to Yarmouth Road, lies in a strait Line from South-south-east to North-northwest, the Land being on the West or Larboard-side. From Wintertonness, which is the utmost easterly Point of Land in the County of Norfolk, and about four Miles beyond Yarmouth, the Shore falls off for near 60 Miles to the West, as far as Lynn and Boston, till the Shore of Lincolnshire trends North again for about 60 Miles more, as far as the Humber; whence the Coaff of Yorkshire, or Holderness, which is Part of the East-Riding, shorts out again into the Sea, to the Spurm, and to Flamborough-Head, as far East almost as the Shore of Norfolk had given back at Winterton, making a very deep Gulf, or bay, between those two Points of Winterton and the Spurn-Head; fo that the Ships going North are obliged to stretch away to Sea from Wintertonness; and leaving the Sight of Land in the deep Bay I have mentioned, that reaches to Lynn, and the Shore of Lincolnshire, they go as I observed, North, or still North-north west, to meet the Shore of Holdernels,

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nefs, which, as I said, runs out into the Sea again at the Spurn: this they leave also, and the first Land they make, is called, as above, Flamborough Head, so that Wintertonness, and Flamborough Head, are the two Extremes of this Course. There is, indeed, the Spurn-Head between; but, as it lies too far in towards the Humber, they keep out to the North, to avoid coming near it.

In like manner the Ships which come from the North, leave the Shore at Flamborough-Head, and firetch away South-fouth-east for Yarmouth Roads; and the first Land they make is Wintertonness, as above. Now, the Danger of the Place is this: If the Ships coming from the North are taken with an hard Gale of Wind from the South-east, or from any Point between North-east and South-east, so that they cannot weather Wintertonness, they are thereby kept within that deep Bay; and, if the Wind blows hard, are often in Danger of running on Shore upon the Rocks about Cromere, on the North coast of Norfolk, or stranding upon the flat Shore between Cromere and Wells. the Relief they have, is good Ground-tackle to ride it out, which is very hard to do there, the Sea coming very high upon them; or if they cannot ride it out, then to run into the Bottom of the great Bay, to Lynn, or Boston, which is a very difficult and desperate Push: so that sometimes, in this Distress, whole Fleets have been loft here all together.

In the same Danger are ships going Northward; for if, after passing by Winterton, they are taken short with a North-east Wind, and cannot put back into the Roads, which very often happens, they are driven upon the same Coast, and embay'd just as the latter. The Danger on the North-part of this Bay is not the same, because if Ships going or coming should be taken short on this Side Flamborough, there is the River Humber open to them, and several good Roads to have recourse

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to; as Burlington Bay, Grimsby Road, the Spurn-Head,

and others where they ride under Shelter.

The Dangers of this Place being thus considered, it is no wonder, that upon the Shore beyond Yarmouth there are no less than four Light-houses kept flaming every Night, besides the Lights at Caster, North of the Town, and at Gou'stone, South; all which are to direct Sailors to keep a good Offing, in case of bad Weather, and to prevent their running into Cromere-bay, which the Seamen call the Devil's Throat.

As I went by Land from Yarmouth North-west, along the Shore towards Cromere aforesaid, and was not then fully Master of the Reason of these Things, I was surprized to see, in all the Way from Winterton, that the Farmers and Country-people had scarce a Barn, Shed, Stable, or Pales, to their Yards and Gardens, or an Hog-stye, or Necessary-house, but what was built of old Planks, Beams, Wales, Timber, &c. the deplorable Wrecks of Ships, and Ruins of Mariners, and Merchants Fortunes; and in some Places were whole Yards filled, and piled up very high, with the same

Stuff laid up for the like building Purpofes.

About the Year 1692, a melancholy Instance of what I have faid happened: A Fleet of 200 Sail of light Colliers went out of Yarmouth Roads with a fair Wind, to purfue their Voyage, and were taken short with a Storm of Wind at North-east. After they were passed Wintertonness a few Leagues, some of them, whose Masters made a better Judgment of Things, or who were not fo far out as the rest, tacked and put back in time, and got fafe into the Roads; but the rest, pushing on, in hopes to keep out to Sea, and weather it, were by the Violence of the Storm driven back, when they were too far embay'd to weather Wintertonness; and so were forced to run West, all shifting for themselves as well as they could: some ran away for Lynn Deeps, but few of them (the Night being fo dark) could find their Way thither; some, but very few,

few, rid it out, at a Distance; the rest, being above 140 Sail, were all driven on Shore, and dashed to Pieces, and very few of the People on Board were faved. At the very same unhappy Juncture, a Fleet of loaden Ships were coming from the North, and, being just croffing the same Bay, were forcibly driven into it, not able to weather the Nefs, and fo were involved in the same Ruin as the light Fleet was; also some coasting Vessels laden with Corn from Lynn and Wells, and bound for Holland, were with the same unhappy Luck just come out, to begin their Voyage, and some of them lay at Anchor: these also met with the same Misfortune, so that, in the Whole, above 200 Sail of Ships, and above 1000 People, were loft in the Difaster of that one miserable Night, very few escaping.

Cromere is a Market-town close to the Shore of this dangerous Coast: I know nothing it is famous for (be-fides its being thus the Terror of the Sailors), except good Lobsters, which are taken on that Coast in great Numbers, and carried to Norwich, and in such Quantities sometimes too, as to be conveyed by Sea to

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ry w. Farther within the Land, and between this Place and Norwich, are several good Market-towns, and a great many Villages, all diligently applying to the Woolen Manusacture; and the Country is exceeding sertile, as well in Corn as Passure; particularly the Pheasants (which was very pleasant to behold) were in such great Plenty, as to be seen in the Stubble like Cocks and Hens; a Testimony (by the way) that the County had more Tradesmen than Gentlemen in it. Indeed this Part is so intirely given up to Industry, that what with the Seasaring-men on the one Side, and the Manusacturers on the other, we saw no idle Hands here, but every Man busy. Some of the principal of these Towns are:

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1. Hickling and North-Waltham, noted only for a Market each.

2. Alsham, a poor Town, noted for Knitters.

3. Worsted, for the Invention and twisting of Yarn, fo called; also famed for Stockens and Stuffs.

4. Catton, noted for a brazen Hand being carried before the Steward of the Demesne, instead of a Mace, and for a Bridge over the Duze.

5. Reepham, for a good Malt market; having no Church at all out of three: for there are only the Ruins

of one of them flanding.

6. Holt, for giving two Lord Mayors of the Name of Gresham (who were Brothers) to London, in 1537, and 1547.

7. Fakenham, noted for nothing, but for having had

Salt-pits formerly; and,

8. St. Faith's, whither the Drovers bring their Black Cattle to fell to the Norfolk Grafiers, as I observed before.

Not far from Cromere is Gresham, the Birth-place of the generous Founder of the Royal-Exchange and

Gresham College, London.

From Cromere we rode on the Strand, or open Shore, to Weyburne Hope, the Shore so slat, that in some Places the Tide ebbs out near two Miles. From Weyburn West lies Clye, where are large Salt-works, and very good Salt made, which is sold all over the Country, and sometimes sent to Holland, and to the Raltic. From Clye we go to Marham, and to Wells, all Towns on the Coast, in each whereof there is a very considerable Trade carried on with Holland for Corn, which that Part of the Country is very full of, besides the great Trade driven here from Holland, back again; which I take to be a Trade carried on with much less Honesty than public Advantage.

Wells, three Leagues West by North of Clay, is a Member of the Port of Lynn, and much more confiderable than any of the fore-mentioned Places; is

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Inhabitants having at present about 30 Vessels, three of which are upwards of 100 Tons; and besides these, at least a Dozen of Fishing-boats, employing in the Whole not sewer than 200 Men; and yet this Place seems to be but reviving, there being evident Marks, that it was larger and of greater Consequence in former times.

At Holkham in Norfolk, two Miles West of Wells, and the same Distance East of Burnham, is the Seat of the late Earl of Leicester; where his Lordship built a fine large House, most Part of curious white Brick. It consists of a Front of sour Wings, and is above 330 Feet in Width.

The feven Burnhams, which are so many small Towns called by the same Name, and each employed in the same Holland Trade as Marham and Wells, lie on and near the Sea-coast to the North-west of Walfigham.

Burnham-Overy, two Leagues further West by South, is accounted a Creek to Wells, and is a little rowing Place, having fix Veffels belonging to it. But Brancusto, which is very near, and is also a Creek to Wells, is now, and was formerly, much superior to it. This, as the best and most accurate Critics agree, was Roman, Station called by them Brannodunum, and was the Head quarters of the Colonel of the Dalmatian Horse, posted here under the Command of the Count of the Saxon Shore for the Protection of the Country. All Circumstances concur in the Support of this Opition; the Name fignifies a Camp or Fortress, seated in a Hill, overlooking the Sea; there have been Coins, Irns, and other Antiquities, frequently found in the Neighbourhood; but what is most to be relied on, is he admirable Situation of the Place at the Elbow, there the Coast runs away South, and where the Proince was exposed to the Depredations of Pirates, readed in those Days, tho' unheard of in ours.

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From the Sea-coast we turned to the South-west, thro' Snetham, a small Market-town, to Castle-rising, an old decayed Borough-town, with hardly ten Families in it, which yet sends two Members to Parliament; but shews a great many Marks of Roman, Saxon, and

Danish Antiquities in and about it.

On the Left we saw Walsingham, an ancient Town, famous for the old Ruins of a Monastery there, and the Shrine of our Lady, as noted as that of St. Thomas a Becket at Canterbury; hence called, Our Lady of Walsingham. Two Wells here are still called by the Name of the Blessed Virgin. The Soil here is noted for producing good Saffron.

Near this Place, at Raynham, is the fine Seat of the

Lord Viscount Townshend.

Not far distant is Houghton, the stately Seat of the East of Orford, the Gardens and Plantations of which are very large and beautiful. Many of the Trees were

planted by Sir Robert Walpole himself.

The Extent of the Building, including the Colonnade and Wings, which contain the Offices, is 450 Feet; the main Body of the House extends 166 Feet. The Hall, which is finished in the Inside with Stone, is a Cube of 40 Feet; the Salon 40 by 30 Feet; and the other Rooms are 18 Feet high. The Rustic and Attic Stories are 12 Feet high each; under the Rustic Story are arched Vaults. The whole Building is of Stone, and is crowned with an Entablature of the Issue Order, and a Balustrade above; and there is a Cupola at each Corner of the House with Lanterns upon them.

The House, for the Compass of Ground it stands on, is reckoned as convenient, as finely ornamented, and as well surnished, as any House in the Kingdom Here is a noble Collection of Capital Pictures of the greatest Masters, which the Earl had been many Years

collecting at a great Expence.

This stately Structure, begun in the Year 1722, was completely finished, Inside and Outside, in the Year

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Year 1735. the noble Founder having had the fingular Felicity to continue first Minister of State for 20 Years.

The Foundation-stone, placed in the South-east Angle, we were informed, hath this Inscription upon it.

Hic me posuit
ROBERTUS ille WALPOLE,
Quem tu non nescies, Posteritas;
Fundamen ut essem Domás
In Agro Natali extruendæ,
24° Die Maii, A.D. MDCCXXII.
Faxit Deus,

Postquam maturus Ævi Dominus Diu lætatus fuerit absoluta, Incolumem tueantur incolumes, Ad summam Diem, Et Nati Natorum, & qui nascentur ab illis.

Which may be thus translated:
Here that Sir ROBERT WALPOLE, with whom thou, Posterity, shalt not be unacquainted, hath fixed me to stand, as the Foundation of a Seat designed to be built in his native Country, the 24th Day of May in the Year 1722. God grant, that after its Master, to a mature Old-age, shall have long enjoyed it in Persection, his latest Descendents may safely possessit, in an unimpaired Condition, to the End of Time.

By this Inscription one may imagine, that Sir Robert had in his Thoughts the uncertain State (in all Ages and Countries) of Prime Ministers, and of the superb Structures built by them in the Height of their Power.

The present Emperor of Germany, being in England when he was Duke of Lorrain, was entertained at Houghton with the most magnificent Repast that perhaps was ever given in this Kingdom; but all the Fish, Fowl, or Game, and every other Viand, was of the Vol. I.

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Produce of England, Wales, and Scotland; and the Variety such, as was never before known or collected at one Table; Relays of Horses being provided on the Roads to bring Rarities from the remotest Parts.

We proceeded hence to Lynn, another rich and populous Port-town, well built, and well fituated, at the Mouth of the River Oufe; which has the greatest Extent of Inland Navigation of any Port in England, London excepted. The Reason whereof is, that more navigable Rivers empty themselves here into the Sea, including the Washes, which are Branches of the same Port, than at any one Mouth of Waters in England, except the Thames and the Humber. By these navigable Rivers the Merchants of Lynn supply about fix Counties wholly, and three Counties in Part, with their Goods, especially Wine and Coals; to wit, by the Little Oufe, they fend their Goods to Brandon and Thetford; by the Lake, to Milden-hall, Barton-Mills, and St. Edmundsbury; by the River Cam, to Cambridge; by the Great Ouse itself, to Ely, to St. Ives, to St. Neots, to Barford-bridge, and to Bedford; by the River Nyne, to Peterborough; by the Drains and Washes to Wishich, to Spalding, Market-deeping, and Stamford; besides the several Counties into which these Goods are carried by Land-carriage, from the Places where the Navigation of those Rivers ends; which has given Rife to this Observation on the Town of Lynn, That they bring in more Coals than any Seaport between London and Newcastle, and import more Wines than any Port in England, except London and Bristol: their Trade to Norway, and to the Baltic Sea, is also great in Proportion; and of late Years they have extended it farther to the Southward.

There are many Gentry at Lynn, and consequently more Gaiety than in Yarmouth, or even in Norwich.

It was first called Lynn Episcopi, as the Property of the B shop of Norwich, till the Dissolution of Monaste-

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ries by King Henry VIII. when that Prince becoming its Possessor, conferred on it the Name of Lynn Regis.

It is fituated towards the Mouth of the Great Oufe, encompassed with a deep Trench, walled almost all round, containing about 2400 Houses, and divided by four Rivulets arched over with about 15 Bridges. extends along the East-side of the River; which in high Spring-tides flows above 20 Feet perpendicular, and is about the Breadth of the Thames above Bridge for the Length of a Mile, and is divided into nine Wards. On the North-end, towards the Sea, stands St. Ann's-Fort, with a Platform of 12 large Guns, commanding all the Ships which pass by the Harbour; and towards the Land, besides the Wall, there are nine regular Bastions, and a Ditch, nearly in the Form of a Semicircle, which make it above half a Mile in Breadth. The Town is so antient as to be supposed the same with Maiden-Bower, according to feveral old Historians.

Its most remarkable Edifices and Places are as sollow: St. Margaret's-Church; the Town-hall; Bridewell; the Custom house, and the Exchange; the Market-cross; St. Nicolas's Chapel; All Saints Church; the Free-school; the Hospitals; the Statue of King James II. King John's Sword and Cup; the common Staith yards; the Lady's Mount; the public Library; the King's Staith yard, &c. Of which briefly in their Order; and first of St. Margaret's-

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This Church, which was formerly an Abbey, and is one of the largest Parochial Churches in England, is adorned with a very fair and high Lantern, covered with Lead, containing the Clock-bell, which may be heard all over the Town. Its Height is 132 Feet. At the West-end stands a Stone Tower, 82 Feet high; and facing the Street a Moon-dial, designed to tell the Increase and Decrease of that Planet, with the exact Hour of the Day. It moves by Clock-work. Over the Tower is a Spire 193 Feet high, in Form of a

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Pyramid;

Pyramid; near to which is the Bell-tower built of Free-stone, 86 Feet high, containing a Ring of eight Bells. In this Church is kept the Bishop's Court, when he comes hither on his Visitation.

The Town-house, called Trinity-hall, is an antient and noble Building, which makes a fine Appearance.

Adjoining to it is the House of Correction, called Bridewell, with Apartments proper for the Reception of such as are put there; who beat and dress Hemp

during their Confinement.

The Exchange is a fair Structure of Free stone, with two Orders of Columns, situated in the Middle of the Town, and built at the Expence of Sir John Turner, Knight; and within it is the Custom-house, containing several commodious Apartments.

The Market-house is a new Edifice of Free-stone, in the modern Taste, 70 Feet high, erected on sour Steps, neatly adorned with Statues, and other Ornaments; with an Inscription giving an Account of its

former Condition, and present Rebuilding.

St. Nicolas's Chapel is very antient, and stands at the North end of the Town. It is an Appendage to St. Margaret's, and is esteemed one of the fairest and largest religious Fabrics in England; it has a Belltower of Free-stone, and a pyramidal octangular Spire over it, both which together are 170 Feet from the Ground.

merly to the Carmelite and White Friers, on the Ruins of whose Monastery it is built. Tho' not large, it is neat, solid, and regular, in form of a Cross, within a Church-yard well walled in.

On the North-fide of St. Margaret's Church-yard is

the Free-school, a strong and beautiful Building.

The only Fabric formerly belonging to any Religious Order, now standing, is the Grey-Friers Steeple, a noted Sea-mark; which was repaired and amended out of the Ruins of a demolished Chapel in the Year

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able and laudable Order, that was made in the Year 1588. That on every first Monday in the Month, there should be a Meeting of the Mayor, Aldermen, some of the Common-council, and the Preachers, in order to settle Peace and Quietness between Man and Man, and to decide all manner of Controversies: this

was called The Feast of Reconciliation.

In the Parish of All-Saints is a small Hospital for four poor Men to live Rent-free. St. Mary Magdalen's Hospital, founded in the Reign of King Stephen, for a Prior, and 12 Brethren and Sifters, continued in a flourishing Condition about 400 Years; and devolved to the Crown, at the making the Statute for Dissolution of Religious Houses in the Reign of Edward VI, in whose Time it was robbed, and almost levelled with the Ground, by Kett's Mutineers, at their Return from their frustrated Attempt to surprize Lynn: so that it remained destitute of Brethren and Sisters, except some poor People, whom the Mayor and Burgeffes maintained, with Design to support the antient Hospital, till King James I. upon Petition restored them their Lands, granted them many Privileges, and incorporated them: but in the Year 1643. it was a second Time destroyed by Fire, by the Earl of Manchester's Forces, when they belieged Lynn, then standing out for the King. In the Year 1649, the Corporation rebuilt it very commodiously, as at present, with two Courts, a Chapel, and convenient Apartments for the Master, Brethren, and Sifters, and feveral Infcriptions commemorating the late Disaster. It is now committed to the Care of two of the elder Aldermen, chosen for that Purpose by the other Governors.

In the great Market-place is a Statue of King James II. erected in the Year 1686. with an Inscription, that may serve for a Satire on the undue Compliments which are frequently paid to Princes, during the Time of their Prosperity. It stands on a Pedestal,

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which

which has feveral Embellishments, and is inclosed within a Palisade of Iron. The Inscription is as follows:

Non immemor

Quantum divinis invictiss. Principis

JACOBIII.

Virtutibus debeat,

Hanc Regiæ Majestatis Effigiem,

Æternum Fidei et Obsequii

Monumentum, erexit

S. P. Q. L.

Anno Salutis 1686.

In English thus:

The Aldermen and Common-council of Lynn, not forgetting how much they owe to the divine Virtues of the invincible King James II. as a lasting Monument of their Faith and Loyalty, have erected this Statue of his Royal Majesty, Anno 1686.

In 1682. an old ruinous Building, which was once a Chapel, was, by the Corporation, and other Inhabitants, made a public Receptacle for poor Children to learn to spin Wool: here they are also taught to read. It is now, by Act of Parliament, settled and wested in the Guardians of the Poor.

The Corporation boasts of having been presented by King John with a very rich double-gilt Cup and Cover, weighing 73 Ounces, which is preserved to this Day, and used on public Occasions: and at the same time a large Sword with a Silver Mounting, from his own Side,

as is engraven on the Inscription on the Hilt.

The Entrance into the common Staith-yard from the Tuesday Market, is by two large Gate-ways, with habitable Rooms over them. It is a beautiful spacious square Area, with a commodious Quay or Wharf, surrounded

furrounded with Warehouses and Granaries for all

forts of Merchandize, with capacious Vaults.

At a small Distance from the Town, stands a ruinous Pile, called The Lady's Mount, or Red Mount; wherein formerly was a Chapel dedicated to the Bleffed Virgin, which ferved as a Receptacle for Pilgrims travelling this Way towards the celebrated Convent of

Our Lady at Walfingham.

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The Library at St. Nicolas was erected by a voluntary Subscription of several hundred Pounds; to which the late Lord Viscount Townshend (who took his Title of Baron from this Town) Sir Robert Walpole, Sir Charles Turner, and Robert Britiffe, Efg; deceased, were considerable Benefactors. There is also another Library at St. Margaret's, to which the late Thomas Thurlin, D. D. President of St. John's College in Cambridge, bequeathed all his Books; and also left an Exhibition of fix Pounds a Year to a poor Scholar, who should go from the Grammar-school to St. John's College in Cambridge; and forty Shillings yearly towards the cloathing three of the poorest Inhabitants of Gaywood, &c.

The Inhabitants of Lynn fuffer great Inconvenience from the Want of fresh water Springs within the Town; with which Element, however, they are Tupplied from a River running by Gaywood, and by leaden

Pipes from Middleton and Mintling.

The King's Staith yard is a very handsome Square, with Brick Buildings fronting each Way; in the Centre of which stands the Statue of James I. in a Nich fronting the West. Here the greatest Part of imported Wines are landed, as it has a convenient Quay, and large Wine-vaults.

The Entrance of its Port, which is so capacious as to hold 200 Sail of Vellels, is somewhat difficult and dangerous; but when entered, it is fafe and com-

modious.

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From what has been faid, it will be observed, that the Situation of this Town renders it capable of being made very strong; and in the great Civil War it was so, a Line of Fortification being drawn round it at a Distance from the Walls; the Ruins, or rather Remains, of which Works appear to this Day: nor would it be an hard Matter to restore the Bastions, with the Ravelins and Counterscarp, upon any sudden Emergency, to a good State of Desence; especially as they are able to fill all their Ditches with Water from the Sea, in such a Manner that it cannot be drawn off.

This Town fends two Members to Parliament.

They pass over here in Boats into the Fen Country, and over the samous Washes into Lincolnshire; but the Passage is very dangerous; for here Passengers often miscarry, and are lost; but then it is usually on their venturing at improper Times, and without the Guides, which if they would be persuaded not to do, they would very rarely fail of going or coming safe.

Litcham, in Lynn Channel, is a Creek dependent upon that Port, having fix Sail of Vessels, and is in a very thriving Way. The Corn and Malt Trade, to Holland particularly, for which they lie very conveniently, may be said to have preserved these Ports, long

declining, and some of them almost expiring.

From Lynn, I bent my Course Southward to Downbam, where is an ugly wooden Bridge over the Ouse; at which, as Holling shead informs us, in October 1568. were taken 17 monstrous Fishes, from 20 to 27 Feet

long.

When we were at Downham, we took a Turn to the antient Town of Thetford, fituated partly in Norfolk, and partly in Suffolk. It was raised on the Ruins of the antient Sitomagus, which was destroyed by the Danes. It is at present but meanly built; but by the Ruins of Churches and Monasteries still remaining, appears to have been formerly of great Account; and even so far back as the Time of King Edward the Confessor.

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Confessor, it had 947 Burgesses, and in that of William I. 720 Mansions. On the Suffolk Side there now remain the Ruins of fix Churches and Monasteries, and there were feveral others in the Town; but now there are but three Parish-Churches standing intire, one on the Suffolk, and two on the Norfolk Side. It is, however, a Town Corporate, governed by a Mayor, Aldermen, and Common-council; has three annual Fairs, a plentiful weekly Market, and is a kind of See Suffragan to that of Norwich. In the 7th Year of King James I, an Act passed for the Founding of an Hospital, a Grammar-school, and Maintenance of a Preacher in this Town for ever, according to the last Will of Sir Richard Fulmerston. Sir Joseph Williamson, Secretary of State to King Charles II. built here a new Council house, and was otherwise a good Benefactor to the Place. There is a large Mount here, called Castlekill, thrown up to a great Height, and fortified with a double Rampart, which Sir Henry Spelman thinks was a Danish Camp. The Lent Affizes are usually held here: and the Town fends two Members to Parliament.

From Thetford we crossed the Ouse to Brandon in Suffolk, which gives the Title of an English Duke, to Duke Hamilton of Scotland. This is no ill-built Town, and has a good Church belonging to it. It gave a Lord Mayor to London, Anno 1445. to wit, Sir Simon Eyre, Draper, who built Leadenball for the Use of the City, and left 5000 Marks, a very great Sum in those Days, to charitable Uses. Bnandon has lost its Market, but stands conveniently upon the Ouse, over which it has a Bridge, and a Ferry to convey Goods to and from the Isle of Ely, to which we directly bent our Course, and entered Cambridgeshire.

We made an Excursion from Ely Northwards up to the Fens; but we saw nothing that Way worth remarking, but deep Roads, vast Drains, and Dykes of

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Water, which are all navigable; though, with all this, a very rich Soil, bearing a great Quantity of Hemp, but

a bad unwholesome Air.

Wishich, however, which lies on the Northern Extremity of the County, has not only been of Note in the Time of William I. who built a Castle here, but is now a well-built Market-town, has a good Townhall, and is esteemed the best Trading town in the sile of Ely, as having the Convenience of good Watercarriage to London, whither they send great Quantities of Oil and Butter, and bring back all Sorts of Commodities, with which the whole like is surnished; for it has a plentiful Market.

A good Way lower down, to the South-west, are the Market-towns of Mersh and Thorney; the first is very inconsiderable, the other is delightfully situated; and the Land about it very fruitful in Grass and Trees; and since the Fens have been drained, it produces very good Crops of Corn. His Grace the Duke of Bedford has a good old Seat at Thorney, which he is annually embellishing by Plantations of Trees, &c. and has an extensive Estate of 19,000 Acres of Land in this

Level.

The Ise of Ely is encompassed with the Ouse, and other Waters. The City is situated on an Hill, in the Middle of a great Plain. It is full of Springs, informuch that in the principal Street, in the East Part of the Town, there are Wells bricked up Knee-high, almost at every hundred Yards, which the whole Year generally overflow from one to another, all the Way down the Declivity of the Hill on which the Town stands. The Soil is exceeding rich, and the City is encompassed with Gardens, the Produce of which is so excellent, that it furnishes all the Country for 20 Miles round, even as far as Cambridge, and St. Ives; the former of which has almost all its Garden-stuff from hence. Great Quantities of Strawberries are cultivated here, particularly of the white Wood sort.

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Ely is observed to be the only City in England subordinate to the Bishop in its Civil Government, and unrepresented in Parliament. Here is a Free-school

and two Charity-schools.

The Minster is a noble Pile, but it is probable will not fland long; fo much is it, and has been for Years past, neglected Dr. Sherlock, the present Bishop of London, when Bishop of Salisbury, as will be observed in its Place, fet a much better Example than has been followed here; obliging those, who are most concerned, to contribute to maintain what maintained them. And confidering that the Revenues of this See of Ely are very ample, that it may be deemed one of the richest in the Kingdom, it is much to be lamented, that no Provision is made out of them to preferve such a Structure as this from the Ruins of Time. What Pity, that Eccleliaftical Persons of late Days seem to think there is no other Use to be made of the Church Revenues, than to raife private and obscure Families!-The Consequence, perhaps, however, of promoting private and obscure Persons to the principal Dignities in the Church; the End least to be served, by those Promotions, most in View to be served. But Bishop Wainfleet, Archbishop Sheldon, William of Wickham, and many other Ecclesiastics of prime Note, would have told fuch Clergymen as are governed by Views fo low, that they were not Views fit for Gentlemen and Churchmen to purfue.

On the East-lide of the Cam, a little below Ely, stands Soham, a little Market-town towards the Borders of Suffolk, near the Marshes, which were formerly dangerous to pass; but now there is a Causeway made, which leads very securely over them. Here are the Remains of an antient Church, which was ruined by

the Danes.

We proceeded hence to Newmarket. Near Snaybell, as we went, we saw a noble Seat of Admiral Russel, created Earl of Orford, for the glorious Victory obtain-

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ed under his Command over the French Fleet, and the

burning their Ships at La Hogue.

The Situation of this House is low, and on the Edge of the Fen Country; but the Building is fine, the Apartments noble, and the Gardens well-finished. On the Earl's Death it devolved to Samuel Sandys, Esq; now Lord Sandys, in Right of his Wife, one of the Earl's Heirs.

Arriving at Newmarket in the Month of October, I had the Opportunity to fee the Horfe-races, and a great Concourse of the Nobility and Gentry, as well from London, as from all Parts of England; but they were all fo intent, so eager, so busy upon what is called the sharping Part of the Sport, of Wagers and Bets, that to me they feemed rather fo many Horse-coursers in Smithfield, than Persons of Quality, who descend so low as even to circumvent one another; and, if I may speak it, pick one another's Pockets. To see a Person of Distinction, who perhaps being ennobled, his Word of Honour, by the Laws of the Land, is to be esteemed and received with equal Sanction, in our Courts of Justice, as an Oath of a Person of lower Rank, level himself with a Groom, or a Riding-boy, and put his Credit and Honour in the Hands of fuch, with a Bribe to betray his Master, and his Trust, is a thing scarce credible among those who are really Men of Honour; and yet it is too often the Case (to the indelible Shame of Men of Rank and Quality be it spoken in particular, and to the Reproach of the Nation in general) that it is not the best Horse that wins the Race, but that which is destined for Victory by a Combination!

Before I was let into the Secret, as it is called, which is indeed nothing but the knavish Part of the Sport, I was much diverted with these Races: but when I was, I rejoiced at the Regulation that it has met with, from the Power that only had Authority to make it. For this Diversion becoming a public Nuisance, by spreading itself in little Matches all over the Kingdom, the

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Legislature took Cognizance of it, and in the 13th of King George II. a Law passed, which injoins as follows; to wit,

That none but the Owners of Horses shall enter

them, and but one Horse at a time:

That no Plate under 50l. Value shall be run for, on Penalty of 200l.—and 100l. on such as shall advertise, print, or publish any Advertisement of a Plate to be run for of less Value than 50l.

Five Years old Horses to carry 10 Stone; Six, 11; Seven, 12; on the Forseiture of the Horse, and 2001. The Race to be begun and ended in one

Day.

Matches to be at Newmarket, and Black-Hambleton, Yorkshire, only; on Penalty of 2001.

But Gifts left for annual Races not to be altered. Somersetshire Penalties to go to Bath Hospital.

Entrance-money to be paid to the second-best Horse.

Newmarket is a handsome well-built Town; and, being a Thorough-fare, reaps no small Advantage by that means, as well as from the Races. It consists chiefly of one long Street, the North-side of which is in Suffolk, and the South in Cambridgeshire. The King has an House of his own, where he resides when he thinks sit to come to the Races. The Town has two Churches belonging to it, and a Free-school endowed by King Charles II.

I went in the Intervals of the Sport to fee the fine Seats of the Gentlemen in the neighbouring County; for this Part of Suffolk, being an open champain Country, and in an healthy Air, is formed for Pleasure, and all kinds of rural Diversion; and the Country is accordingly in a manner covered with fine Palaces of the

Nobility, and pleafant Seats of the Gentry.

Euston hall, the Seat of the Duke of Grafton, lies in the open Country towards the Side of Norfolk, not far from

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from Thetford; a Place capable of all that is pleasant and delightful in Nature, and greatly improved by Art.

of the noble Family of Jermyns, Lord Dover, and now of the House of Davers. Then we saw Brently, the Seat of the Earl of Dysert, and the antient Palace of Lord Cornwallis, with several others most agreeably situated, and adorned with the Beauties both of Art and Nature.

We entered Cambridgeshire out of Suffolk with all the Advantage that can be imagined; just upon those pleasant and agreeable Plains, called Newmarket heath. Across which extends a Fortification, or Ditch, with a Rampart, commonly called The Devil's Dyke, as Works of an extraordinary Nature are generally, by the Vulgar, attributed to that Prince of Darkness; but among the Gentry, it is best known by the Name of Rech-Dyke, from Rech, a small Market-town lying near the Heath. It is supposed to have been the Boundary of the Kingdom of the Eost-Angles.

Passing this Ditch, we see from the Hills called Gogmagog, or rather Hogmagog, a rich and pleasant Vale Westward, covered with Corn-fields, Gentlemens Seats, Villages; and at a Distance, to crown all the rest, that antient and truly noble University and Town

of Cambridge, Capital of the County.

In the Ground between these Hills and Cambridge grows naturally abundance of Larkspur, which being intermixed with the Wheat, makes a fine Appearance, the blue and white Flowers which rise to the Height of the Corn, as the Ears become ripe, make a fine Variety with the Larkspur.

Combridgeshire, except the Fen Part, is almost wholly a Corn Country; and of that Corn, sive Parts in six of all they sow is Barley, which is generally sold to Ware and Royston, and other great Malting towns in Hertfordshire, and is the Fund from whence that valt

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Quantity of Malt, called Hertfordhire Malt, is made, and which is eftermed the best in England. As Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, are taken up in Manusactures, and samed for Industry, this County has no Manusacture at all; nor are the Poor, except the Husbandmen, noted for any thing so much as Sloth; to their Reproach be it spoken! What the Reason of it is, I know not.

On the Top of Hogmagog Hills appears an antient Camp, or Fortification, with a treble Rampart and Ditch, which most of our Writers say was neither Roman nor Saxon, but British. King James II. caused a spacious Stable to be built in the Area of this Camp, for his Running-horses, and made old Mr. Frampton Master or Inspector of them. The Stables remain still there, though they are not often made use of. Earl Godolphin has here a fine House on the very Summit of the Hill, to which his Lordship frequently resorts,

especially in the Racing-season.

As we descended Westward, we saw the Fen Country on our Right, almost all covered with Water like a Sea. The Michaelmas Rains, having been very great that Year, sent down wast Floods of Water from the Upland Counties; and those Fens being the Sink of no less than 12 Counties, they are often thus overshowed. The Rivers which thus empty themselves into these Fens, and carry off the Water, are the Cam or Grant, the Great Ouse and Little Ouse, the Nene, the Welland, and the River which runs from Bury to Mildenhall. The Counties which these Rivers drain, as above, are those of

Lincoln, Warwick, Rutland,

\* Cambridge, Oxford, Norfolk,

\* Huntingdon, Leicester, Suffolk, and

\* Bedford, \* Northampton, Essex.

Those marked with (\*) empty all their Waters this Way, the rest but in Part.

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In a Word, all the Water of the middle Part of Eng. land, which does not run into the Thames, or the Trent, comes down into these Fens.

In these Fens are abundance of those admirable Pieces of Art called Duckoys; and it is incredible what Quantities of Wild-sowl of all sorts, Duck, Mallard, Teal, Wigeon, &c. they take in them every Week during the Season: it may indeed be guessed at in some measure by this, that there is a Duckoy not far from Ely, which yields the Landlord 500l. a Year clear of the Charge of maintaining a great Number of Servants for the Management; from whence alone they assured meat St. Ives (a Town on the Ouse, whither the Fowls are always brought to be conveyed to London), that they generally sent up 3000 Couples a Week.

There are more of these about Peterborough, from whence Waggon-loads are sent up twice a Week to London. I have seen these Waggons, before the Act of Parliament to regulate Carriers, drawn by ten or twelve Horses apiece, so heavy were they loaden.

As these Fens appear overwhelmed with Water, I observed, that they generally at the latter Part of the Year appear also covered with Fogs; so that, when the Downs and higher Grounds of the adjacent Country glittered with the Beams of the Sun, the Isle of Ely seemed wrapped up in Mistand Darkness, and nothing could be discerned, but now-and-then the Cupola of

Ely Minster.

One could hardly see this from the Hills, without Concern for the many thousand Families confined to those Fogs, who had no other Breath to draw, than what must be mixed with the choaking Vapours, which spread over all the Country: but, notwithstanding this, the People, especially those that are used to it, live as healthy as those in a clearer Air, except nowand-then an Ague, which they make light of; and there are great Numbers of very antient People among them. An act passed a few Years ago, for the more effectual

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effectual Draining and Preservation of Haddenham Level in the Isle of Ely, which contains 6500 Acres, which were overflowed chiefly through the Neglect of preserving and clearing the Out-falls into the Sea; and as these Grounds are naturally very rich and sertile, it may be imagined, what a Benefit must accrue to the Public by this Means, when the Draining and Recovery of them can be completed.

Having been at Sturbridge-fair, when it was in its Height, in the Month of September, the Year before I was at Newmarket, I must say, that it is not only the greatest in the whole Nation, but I think in Europe; nor are the Fair at Leipsick in Saxony, the Mart at Frankfort on the Main, or the Fairs at Nuremberg or Ausburg, reputed any-way comparable to this at Stur-

bridge \*.

It is kept in a large Corn-field, near Chesterton, extending from the Side of the River Cam, towards the

Road, for about half a Mile square.

If the Field be not cleared of the Corn before a certain Day in August, the Fairkeepers may trample it under-foot, to build their Booths or Tents. On the other hand, to balance that Severity, if the Fairkeepers have not cleared the Field by another certain Day in September, the Ploughmen may re-enter with Plough and Cart, and overthrow all into the Dirt; and as for the Filth, Dung, Straw, & c. left behind by the Fairkeepers, which is very considerable, these become the Farmers Fees, and make them full Amends for the trampling, riding, carting upon, and hardening the Ground.

It is impossible to describe all the Parts and Circumces of this Fair exactly; the Shops are placed in Rows like Streets, whereof one is called *Cheapside*; and here, as in several other Streets, are all Sorts of Traders, who sell by Retale, and come chiefly from London. Here

<sup>\*</sup> This Fair is pretty much dwindled fince this Account of it; tho' it is still very considerable.

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may be seen Goldsmiths, Toymen, Brasiers, Turners, Milaners, Haberdashers, Hatters, Mercers, Drapers, Pewterers, China-ware-houses, and, in a Word, all Trades, that can be found in London; with Cossee houses, Taverns, and Eating-houses, in great Num.

bers; and all kept in Tents and Booths.

This great Street reaches from the Road, which goes from Cambridge to Newmarket, turning fhort out of it to the Left towards the River, and holds in a Line near half a Mile quite down to the River-fide. In another Street parallel with the Road are the like Rows of Booths, but somewhat larger, and more intermingled with Wholesale Dealers; and one Side, passing out of this last Street to the Right-hand, is a great Square, formed of the largest Booth, called the Duddery; but whence so called I could not learn. The Area of this Square is from 80 to 100 Yards, where the Dealers have room before every Booth to take down and open their Packs, and to bring in Waggons to load and unload.

This Place being peculiar to the Wholesale Dealers in the Woolen Manufacture, the Booths or Tents are of a vast Extent, have different Apartments, and the Quantities of Goods they bring are fo great, that the Infides of them look like fo many Blackwell-halls, and are vast Warehouses piled up with Goods to the Top. In this Duddery, as I have been informed, have been fold 100,000 Pounds-worth of Woolen Manufactures in less than a Week's time; besides the prodigious Trade carried on here by Wholesalemen from London, and all Parts of England, who transact their Business wholly in their Pocket-books; and, meeting their Chapmen from all Parts, make up their Accounts, to ceive Money chiefly in Bills, and take Orders. These they fay, exceed by far the Sale of Goods actually brought to the Fair, and delivered in Kind; it being frequent for the London Wholesalemen to carry back Orders from the Dealers, for 10,000 Pounds-worth of Goods

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Goods a Man, and some much more. This especially respects those People who deal in heavy Goods, as Wholesale Grocers, Salters, Brasiers, Iron-merchants, Wine-merchants, and the like; but does not exclude the Dealers in Woolen Manusactures, and especially in Mercery-goods of all forts, who generally manage their Business in this manner.

Here are Clothiers from Halifax, Leeds, Wakefield, and Huthersfield, in Yorkshire, and from Rochdale, Bury, &c. in Lancashire, with vast Quantities of Yorkshire Cloths, Kerseys, Pennystones, Cottons, &c. with all sorts of Manchester Ware, Fustians, and Things made of Cotton Wool; of which the Quantity is so great, that they told me there were near 1000 Horse packs of such Goods from that Side of the Country, and these took up a Side and Half of the Duddery at least; also a Part of a Street of Booths was taken up with Upholsters Ware; such as Tickens, Sackens, Kidderminster Stuffs, Blankets, Rugs, Quilts, &c.

In the Duddery I saw one Warehouse, or Booth, consisting of six Apartments, all belonging to a Dealer in Norwich Stuffs only, who, they said, had there above

20,000l. Value in those Goods.

Western Goods had their Share here also, and several Booths were silled with Serges, Duroys, Druggets, Shalloons, Cantaloons, Devensbire Kersies, &c. from Exeter, Tounton, Bristol, and other Parts West, and some from London also.

But all this is still outdone, at least in Appearance, by two Articles, which are the Peculiars of this Fair, and are not exhibited till the other Part of the Fair, for the Woolen Manufacture, begins to close up: these are the Wool, and the Hors. There is scarce any Price fixed for Hops in England, till they know how they sell at Sturbridge fair. The Quantity that appears in the Fair, is indeed prodigious, and they take up a large Part of the Field, on which the Fair is kept, to themselves: they are brought directly from Ohelmsford in Eller,

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Essex, from Canterbury and Maidstone in Kent, and from Farnham in Surry; besides what are brought from London, of the Growth of those and other Places.

The Article of Wool is of several Sorts; but principally Fleece Wool, out of Lincolnshire, where the longest Staple is found, the Sheep of those Parts being of the largest Breed.

The Buyers are chiefly the Manufacturers of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Effex; and it is a prodigious Quan-

tity they buy.

Here I faw what I have not observed in any other County of England, a Pocket of Wool; which seems to have been at first called so in Mockery, this Pocket being so big, that it loads a whole Waggon, and reaches beyond the most extreme Parts of it, hanging over both before and behind; and these ordinarily weigh a Ton, or 2500 Pound Weight of Wool, all in one Bag.

The Quantity of Wool only, which has been fold at this Place, at one Fair, has been faid to amount to 50 or 60,000l in Value; some say, a great deal more.

By these Articles, a Stranger may take some Guess at the immense Trade which is carried on at this Place; what prodigious Quantities of Goods are bought and sold, and what a vast Concourse of People are seen here

from all Parts of England.

I might proceed to speak of several other Sorts of English Manusactures, which are brought hither to be sold; as all Sorts of wrought Iron, and Brass-ware from Birmingham; edged Tools, Knives, &c. from Sheffield; Glass Wares, and Stockens, from Nottingham and Leicester; and unaccountable Quantities of other Things, of smaller Value, every Morning.

People which refort to it, there are Hackney Coaches, which come from London, and ply all Day long, to carry the People to and from Cambridge; for there

the major Part of them lodge.

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It is not to be wondered at, if the Town of Cambridge cannot receive or entertain the Numbers of People that come to this Fair; for not Cambridge only, but all the Towns round are full; nay, the very Barns and Stables are turned into Inns, to lodge the meaner Sort of People: as for the Fair-people, they all eat, drink, and fleep, in their Booths, which are so intermingled with Taverns, Coffee-houses, Drinking-houses, Eating-houses, Cooks Shops, &c. and so many Butchers and Higglers from all the neighbouring Counties come in every Morning with Beef, Mutton, Fowls, Butter, Bread, Cheese, Eggs, and such Things, and go with them from Tent to Tent, from Door to Door, that there is no Want of Provisions of any Kind, either dressed, or undressed.

In a word, the Fair is like a well-governed City, and there is the least Disorder and Confusion (I believe) that can be seen any where, with so great a Concourse.

of People.

Towards the middle of the Fair, and when the great Hurry of Wholefale Business begins to be over, the Gentry come in, from all Parts of the Country round; and though they come for their Diversion, yet it is not a little Money they lay out, which generally falls to the Share of the Retailers; fuch as the Toy-shops, Goldsmiths, Brasiers, Ironmongers, Turners, Milaners, Mercers, &c. and some loose Corns they reserve for the Puppet-shews, Drolls, Rope-dancers, and such-like; of which there is no want. The middle Day of the Fair is the Horse-fair, which is concluded both with Horse and Foot-races. In less than a Week after the End of the Fair, scarce any Sign of it remains, except by the Heaps of Dung, Straw, and other Rubbish, which is left behind, trod into the Earth, and is as good as a Summer's Fallow for the Land; and, as I have faid above, pays the Husbandman well by the Use

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I should have mentioned, that here is a Court of Justice always open, and held every Day in a Shed built on Purpose in the Fair: this is for keeping the Peace, and deciding Controversies in Matters arising from the Business of the Fair. The Magistrates of the University of Cambridge are Judges in this Court, as being in their Jurisdiction, by special Privilege. Here they determine Matters in a summary Way, as is practised in those we call Pye-powder Courts in other Places, or as a Court of Conscience; and they have a final Authority without Appeal.

Having just mentioned the Puppet-shews, Drolls, &c. with which the People are entertained during the Time of this Fair, I cannot but relate a deplorable Accident that happened on this Occasion, at Burwell

in this Neighbourhood, as follows.

On the 8th of September 1727. about eight at Night, a Puppet-shew being to be acted in a Barn thatched with Straw, a Fellow attempted to thrust himself in without paying; but being refused, and the Door locked, and, as some report, nailed, to keep out Intruders, the Villain threatened he would fet the Barn on Fire over their Heads, in Revenge. There was a Place adjoining to the Barn, where were Hay and Straw; and a Boy fetting down a wooden Lantern with a short Candle in it at a little Distance, whilst he was looking thro' a Hole at the Sight, the villainous Fellow aforefaid beat the Lantern about, till the Fire took the Straw, which he left burning, and ran away. was a Floor above them, and the Flame, getting into the false Roof, spread like Wildfire. The People in the utmost Consternation, all making to the Door, which opened inwards, fell upon one another, and became, as it were, formany Baricadoes to hinder it being opened: and just at this fatal Crifis, the Fire having feized some, and dreadful Shrieks and Cries resounding on every Side, the Floor fell in, and smothered almost all; for not above five or fix escaped; and about 120 Men,

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Men, Women, and Children, miserably perished. The next Day it was one of the most shocking Sights that ever was beheld, to see the Relations of the unhappy Persons slocking thither to find and own the Bodies, some of their Brothers, some of their Children, some of their Wives and Husbands, which they sound Dissiculty enough to discover; for some of them had their Heads burnt off, some their Legs, some their Hands and Arms, and others were, in a manner, consumed to Ashes. And at last, most of the mangled Bodies were carried in Carts, and put promiscuously into a large Hole dug in the Church-yard for that Purpose. Among the unfortunate Sufferers were several young Gentlewomen of considerable Fortunes.

About four Years after this, another terrible Fire happened, which almost consumed the whole Town of Barnwell.

Within these sew Years, a fine Road, of about sour Miles in length, is completed, from the Town of Cambridge to Hogmagog-hills; which, by reason of the former Badness of the Way in that Place, is an exceeding useful Benefaction to the Town; which generous Work was done, as some say, in pursuance of the Will of William Wortes, Esq; of Cambridge; as others, by virtue of a Legacy of Hobson, the samous Lettercarrier.

The two Universities of Cambridge and Oxford are so much the Glory of this Nation, that it would be an almost an unpardonable Defect in such a Work as this, not to take particular Notice of them. I shall refer that of Oxford to its proper Place; and here give as brief an Account as I can of this of Cambridge, and of the Originals and Founders of the several Colleges, together with the Favours and Advantages that have been within these few Years conferred upon it by his late Majesty, and other Benefactors.

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The Town is governed by a Mayor and Aldermen; but, with regard to the Government of the University, That has a Chancellor, eligible every three Years, aut manere in eodem Officio durante tacito Consensu Senatús Cantabr. The present Chancellor is his Grace the Duke of Newcastle. He hath under him a Commissary; who holds a Court of Record of Civil Causes for all privileged Persons and Scholars, under the Degree of Master of Arts.

They have also an High Steward, chosen by the Senate, and holding by Patent from the University. The present High Steward is the Earl of Hardwicke.

The Vice Chancellor is annually chosen on the 4th of November, by the Body of the University, out of two Persons, nominated by the Heads of the Colleges.

Two Proctors are also annually chosen, as at Oxford; as also are two Taxers, who, with the Proctors, have Cognizance of Weights and Measures, as Clerks of the Market.

The University has also a Custos Archivorum, or Register; three Esquire Beadles, one Yeoman Beadle,

and a Library-keeper.

The Vice-Chancellor fometimes visits the Taverns, and other Public-houses in Person: but the Proctors do it very frequently, and have Power to punish offending Scholars, and to fine the Public-houses who entertain them after eight at Night in the Winter, or nine in the Summer.

As to the Antiquity of the University of Cambridge; the Story goes, that Cantaber, a Spaniard, 270 Years before Christ, first founded it; and that Sebert, King of the East-Angles, restored it, Anno Christi 630. Asterwards, as the learned Camden observes, it lay a long time neglected, and was overthrown by the Danish Storms, till all Things revived under the Norman Government. Soon after Inns, Hostels, and Halls, were built for Students, the without Endowments. There are now 16 Colleges and Halls, which differ only in

Name,

Name, being equally endowed and privileged; 16 Masters, 406 Fellowships: about 662 Scholarships, 236 Exhibitions; and the whole Number of Masters, Fellows, Scholars, Exhibitioners, and other Students, are about 1500.

I shall now give a brief Account of the Colleges,

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I. PETER-HOUSE,

Which was founded by Hugh Balfham, Bishop of Ely, Anno 1257, when only Prior of Ely. But at first the Scholars had no other Conveniences than Chambers, which exempted them from the high Rates imposed on them by the Townsmen for Lodgings. The Endowment was settled by the same Hugh, when Bishop, Anno 1284. for a Master, 14 Fellows, &c. Which Number might be increased or diminished according to the Improvement or Dimunition of their Revenues.

2. CLARE-HALL

Was founded in the Year 1340. by Richard Badew, Chancellor of the University, with the Assistance of the Lady Elizabeth Clare, Countess of Ulster. He had before built an House called University-Hall, wherein the Scholars lived upon their own Expence for 16 Years, till it was accidentally destroyed by Fire. The Founder, finding the Charge of Rebuilding would exceed his Abilities, had the kind Assistance of the said Lady, throwhose Liberality it was not only rebuilt, but endowed. It has been lately new-built, all of Free-stone, and is one of the neatest and most uniform Houses in the University, and is delightfully situated, the River Cam running thro' the Garden.

3. PEMBROKE-HALL

Was founded in the Year 1347. by the Lady Mary St. Paul, Countess of Pembroke, third Wife to Audomare de Valentia, Earl of Pembroke; who having been unhappely slain at a Tilting on his Wedding day, she intirely sequestered herself from all worldly Delights, and, among other pious Acts, built this College, which Vol. I.

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has been fince much augmented by the Benefactions of others.

4. ST. BENNET'S, or CORPUS-CHRISTI COLLEGE,

Was founded by the Society of Friers in Corpus Christi, in the Year 1346. This rose out of two Guilds or Fraternities, one of Corpus Christi, and the other of the Bleffed Virgin, which after a long Emulation, being united into one Body, by a joint Interest built this College, which took its Name from the adjoining Church of St. Benediet. Their greatest modern Benefactor was Dr. Matthew Parker, once Master of the College, and afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, who, by his prudent Management, recovered several Rights of the College; and, besides two Fellowships and five Scolarships, gave a great Number of excellent MSS. to their Library, which were mostly collected out of the Remains of the old Abbey-Libraries, Colleges, and Cathedrals, and chiefly relate to the History of England.

4. TRINITY HALL

Was founded about the Year 1353. by William Fat man, Bishop of Norwich. It was built upon a Place which once belonged to the Monks of Ely, and was an House for Students before the Time of Bishop Bateman, who, by Exchange for the Advowsons of certain Rectories, got it into his own Possession. He was a great Master of Civil and Canon Law; whereupon the Master, two Fellows, and three Scholars (the Number appointed by him at the first Foundation), were obliged to follow those two Studies. It has been since much augmented by Benefactors, and the Number of its Members is proportionably increased.

6. GONEVIL and CAIUS COLLEGE

Anno 1348. Edmund Gonevil founded an Hall, called after his Name, upon the Place where now are the Orchard and Tennis-court of Bennet-College. But within five Years after it was removed into the Place where

where it now stands, by Bishop Bateman, Founder of Trinity-Hall. Anno 1607. John Caius, Doctor of Physic, improved this Hall into a new College, since chiefly called by his Name; and it has of late Years received considerable Embellishments, &c.

7. KING'S-COLLEGE

Was founded in the Year 1451: by King Henry VI. It was at first but small, being built by that Prince for a Rector and 12 Scholars only. Near it was a little Hostel for Grammarians, built by William Bingbam, which was granted by the Founder to King Henry, for the Inlargement of his College. Whereupon he united these two, and, having inlarged them, by adding the Church of St. John Zachary, founded a College for a Provost, 70 Fellows and Scholars, three Chaplains, &c. The Chapel belonging to this College is deservedly reckoned one of the finest Buildings of its Kind in the World. It is 304 Feet long; its Breadth, including the Cells or Burial-places on each Side, is 73 broad; its Height to the Battlements is 91 Feet; it has not one Pillar in it, and the Roof is arched with Stone. It has 12 large Windows on each Side, finely painted; and the Carving, and other Workmanship, of the Stalls furpasses any thing of the Kind. It constitutes one Side of a large Square; for the Royal Founder defigned, that the College should be a Quadrangle, all of equal Beauty: but the Civil Wars, in which he was involved with the House of York, prevented his accomplishing it; and the Profecution of his good Defign was reserved to our own Time. What has been added within these few Years past, is not only an Ornament to the College, but to the whole University. The new Building, which is of Stone, runs from the West-end of the Chapel, a little detached from it, to the Southward, makes another Side of the Square, and contains spacious Chambers and Apartments, being 236 Feet in Length, and 46 in Breadth. The new Senate-hall. which makes the Angle parallel to the Chapel, is nothing

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thing so well contrived for the Purpose, as the Thea-

tre at Oxford.

Febr. 1734. the Workmen, digging for the Foundation of the new Buildings of this College, found a great Number of Broad Pieces of Gold, of the Coin of King Henry V. exceeding fair. As foon as it was known, the Governors of the College got out of the Workmens Hands a confiderable Number, which they made Prefents of to their particular Benefactors, and divided among themselves, and the Fellows of the College; but it is supposed, that the Workmen secreted many; for this Coin was very scarce before, but after this was much easier to be met with.

8. QUEEN'S-COLLEGE

Was founded by Queen Margaret of Anjou, Wife of King Henry VI. in the Year 1448. but the trouble-fome Times that followed, would not give her Leave to complete the Fabric. The first Master of it, Andrew Ducket, procured great Sums of Money from well-disposed Persons, towards Finishing of this Work; and so far prevailed with Queen Elizabeth, Wife of King Edward IV. that she persected what her professed Enemy had begun. The Reverend Mr. Ferdinando Smithes, Senior Fellow of Queen's College, who died in November 1725. gave 1500 l. to the same, to be appropriated to the Use of three Bachelors of Art, till the time of their taking their Masters Degree.

9. CATHARINE-HALL

Was founded in the Year 1459. by Robert Wood-lark, third Provost of King's College; and the Hall was built over-against the Carmelites House, for one Master and three Fellows. The Numbers have been since greatly increased, as well as the Revenues. A great Part of it is lately new-built, and may be said to be a beautiful and regular Fabric.

10. JESUS COLLEGE

Was founded Anno 1497. by John Alcocke, Bishop of Ely, out of an old Nunnery dedicated to St. Rade-gund,

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fund, given him by King Henry VII. and Pope Julius II. on account of the scandalous Incontinence of the Nuns, in order to be by him converted to this Use. And this Prelate established in it a Master, fix Fellows, and six Scholars: but their Numbers have been much increased by Benefactions.

II. CHRIST'S COLLEGE

Was founded by the Lady Margaret, Countess of Richmond, Mother of King Henry VII. Anno 1506. upon the Place where God's House formerly stood. She settled there a Master and 12 Fellows, &c. which Number in King Edward VI's Time being complained of as savouring of Superstition, by alluding to our Saviour and his 12 Disciples, that Prince added a 13th Fellowship, with some new Scholarships. This College has been, within these few Years past, adorned with a very fine new Building.

12. St. JOHN'S COLLEGE

Was founded about the Year 1506. by the same Lady, upon the Place where, Anno 1134. Nigel or Neal, fecond Bishop of Ely, founded an Hospital for Canons Regular; which, by Hugh de Balsham, was converted into a Priory dedicated to St. John, and, by the Executors of the faid Counters of Richmond, into a College, under the Name of the same Saint. For the died before it was finished, which retarded the Work for some time; but it was afterwards carried on by her Executors; and in the Beginning of the Reign of King James I. was greatly inlarged with fair new Buildings. This College, pleafantly fituated by the River, is no less remarkable for its Number of Students, and its beautiful Groves and Gardens, than for its strict and regular Discipline. It has a noble Library, which has been of late Years greatly augmented, by the Accession of the Library of Dr. Gunning, Bishop of Ely, who bequeathed the fame to it.

13. MAGDALEN COLLEGE

Was founded Anno 1542. by Thomas Audley, Lord Chancellor of England, and was afterwards inlarged F 3 and

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and endowed by Sir Christopher Wrey, Lord Chief Justice of England. This College stands by itself on the North-west Side of the River, and hath been of late Years improved and adorned by an handsome Piece of Building. A Fellowship of a considerable Value has been lately sounded at this College, which is appropriated to Gentlemen of the County of Norfolk, and called The Traveling Norfolk Fellowship.

To the Library of this College were left a valuable Collection of Pamphlets, by . . . . . Pepys, Efq; as also great Numbers of Papers relating to the Navy and Admiralty. The Benefactor bequeathed the Presses, as well as the Books and Papers, and they are kept in

the manner he left them.

14. TRINITY COLLEGE

Was founded Anno 1546. by King Henry VIII. out of three others: St. Michael's College built by Hervie of Stanton, in the Time of Edward II. King's hall, founded by Edward III. and Fenwick's Hoftel. worthy Mafter, T. Nevil, Dean of Canterbury, repaired, or rather new-built, this College, with that Splendor and Magnificence, that for Spaciousness, and the Beauty and Uniformity of its Buildings, it is hardly to be outdone. All which has been fince still further improved, by a most noble and stately Library, begun by the late famous Dr. Isaac Barrow: A Building, for the Bigness and Design of it (says a Right Reverend Prelate) perhaps not to be matched in these Kingdoms. This College is likewife rendered famous on account of several great Men it has educated, as the Lord Bacon, Sir Isaac Newton, Dr. Barrow, Mr. Ray, and Dr. Bentley, its late learned Master. July 4, 1755. was finished and erected in Trinity-Chapel, Cambridge, by Dr. Smith, that long studied Piece of Sculpture of Sir Isaac Newton, which is allowed by the best Professors of Art, to be a complete Master-piece of the celebrated Mr. Roubiliac.

Was founded Anno 1584. by Sir Walter Mildmay, Chancellor m.

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Chancellor of the Exchequer to Queen Elizabeth, in a Place where was formerly a Convent of Dominicans, founded in the Year 1280. by the Lady Alice, Countess of Oxford. After the Suppression of Monasteries it came into the Possession of Mr. Sherwood, of whom Sir Walter seems to have bought it. It has a very neat Chapel, built not many Years ago, by the Bounty of Dr. William Sancrost, Archbishop of Canterbury, and others. And the Library belonging to it, has received of late Years a fine Addition, by the valuable Collection of Books of the same Archbishop, given to it on the Decease of that Prelate.

16. SIDNEY-SUSSEX COLLEGE.

Was founded by virtue of the Will of the Lady Frances Sidney, Countess of Sussex, who died Anno 1589, and by her Will left 5000 l. for the Founding of a College, to be called Sidney Sussex. It was erected on the Place were formerly the Monastery of Grey-Friers, built by King Edward I. had flourished. But though this College owes its Rise to the Bequest of this Lady, and the Care of her Executors, it is exceedingly improved by the Benefactions of Sir Francis Clerk, who, besides erecting a Set of new Buildings, augmented the Scholarships, and sounded sour Fellowships, with eight Scholarships more; and moreover Sir John Brereton left to it above 2000 l.

These are the fixteen Colleges or Halls in this Uni-

verfity.

The Schools of this University were at first in private Houses, hired from ten Years to ten Years for that Purpose, by the University; in which time they might not be put to any other Use. Afterwards public Schools were built at the Charge of the University, in or near the Place where they now stand; but the present Fabric, as it is now built of Brick and rough Stone, was erected partly at the Expence of the University, and partly by the Contributions of several Benefactors.

The

The University-Library was first built by Retheram, Archbishop of York, who, with Tonstal, Bishop of Durbam, surnished it with choice Books; sew whereof are to be found at present. But it contained nevertheless about 14000 Books, when his late Majesty King George 1. was graciously pleased, in the Beginning of his Reign, to purchase the large and curious Library of Dr. John Moor, Bishop of Ely, who died July 30, 1714. and, as a Mark of his Royal Favour, to bestow

it upon this University.

There have been very lately great Additions and Alterations made in the Library, for the better Difpofition of this valuable Royal Prefent, which confifted of upwards of 30,000 Volumes, and cost the King 6000 Guineas. And we cannot but observe, in this Place, That the late Lord Viscount Townsend, having understood that the University, to shew their Gratitude, and do Honour to the Memory of his late Majesty King George I. intended to erect a Statue of that Monarch, was pleased to offer to cause the same to be carved, and fet up in the faid Library at his own Expence: which generous Tender was received by the University in the Manner it deserved, and with Circumstances equally to their own and his Lordship's Honour. And in the Month of October 1739. in pursuance thereof, a fine Marble Statue of this great Prince was accordingly crected in the Senate-hall of King's-College; on which are the following Inscriptions; viz. On the Front:

GEORGIO
Optimo Principi,
Magnæ Britanniæ Regi,
Ob insignia ejus in hanc Academiam
Merita,
Senatus Cantabrigiensis
In perpetuum
Grati Animi Testimonium
Statuam

Mortuo ponendam Decrevit.

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That is, By the Senate of Cambridge it was decreed, That a Statue should be erected to his late most Excellent Majesty George I. King of Great Britain, as a perpetual Monument of their Gratitude for his signal Benefits to this University. On the Left:

## CAROLUS

Vicecomes Townshend,
Summum tum Academiæ, tum
Reipublicæ Decus,
Pro Eximia, qua Regem coluerat,
Pietate, proque singulari,
Qua Academiam foverat,
Caritate, Statuam
A Senatu Academico decretam
Sumtibus suis e Marmore
Faciendam locavit.

That is, Charles Lord Viscount Townshend, a principal Ornament both of the University and the State, agreeably to his singular Loyalty towards his Prince, and the particular Affection wherewith he had favoured the University, engaged to have the Statue, which was decreed by the Senate of Cambridge, made of Marble at his own Expence.

CAROLUS Filius
Vicecomes Townshend,
Virtutum æque ac Honorum
Paternorum Hæres,
Statuam,
Quam Pater Morte subita abreptus
Impersectam reliquerat,
Persiciendam,
Atque in hoc ornatissimo
Academiæ Loco collocandam,
Curavit.

That is, Charles the Son, Lord Viscount Townshend, Heir alike to the Virtues and Dignities of his Father, F 5 caused caused this Statue, which his Father, surprised by sudden Death, had lest impersect, to be completed, and erected in this most honourable Place of the

University.

The same beneficent King, not contented with having given this noble Instance of his Royal Bounty to the University of Cambridge, in the Year 1724. was graciously pleased to confer another Mark of his Favour upon them, and which extended to the University of of Oxford, in creating a new Establishment in a most useful Branch of Learning, which was much wanted, and for which till that time there had been no Provifion: this was, to appoint two Persons, not under the Degree of Master of Arts, or Bachelor of Laws, skilled in Modern History, and in the Knowlege of Modern Languages, to be nominated King's Profesfors of Modern History, one for the University of Cambridge, and the other for that of Oxford; who are obliged to read Lectures in the Public Schools, at particular times; each of which Profesfors to have a Stipend of 400l. per Annum; out of which each Professor is obliged to maintain, with sufficient Salaries, two Persons at least, well qualified to teach and instruct in writing and speaking the faid Lauguages, gratis, twenty Scholars of each Univerfity, to be nominated by the King, each of which is obliged to learn two, at least, of the said Languages.

The same Excellent Prince also was pleased to appoint twelve Persons, chosen out of each of the Universities, to be Preachers in the Royal Chapel of Whitehall, at stated Times, with handsome Salaries; and declared, That he would cause a particular Regard to be had to the Members of the two Universities, in the Dispositions of those Benefices which sell into the Royal Gist.

A very fine Marble Statue, done by Rysbrack, of the late Duke of Somerset, who was Chancellor of this University for above sixty Years, was placed, in July 1756 in the Senate-house at Cambridge, on the Righthand of the East Door, just before the Pillars that support the Gallery at the End. It exhibits a noble Figure

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Figure of the Duke in the younger Part of his Life, raised on a square Pedestal, and dressed after Vandyke's Manner, with the Ensigns of the Order of the Garter, leaning in an easy Posture on his lest Arm, and holding out a Roll in his Right hand. The whole Piece has a very graceful and majestic Look, is extremely well executed, and does Honour to the ingenious Artist. It was a Present made to the University by the Duke's illustrious Daughters, the Marchioness of Granby and Lady Guernsey. The following Inscription in Capitals is set on the Front of the Pedestal.

C A R O L O
DVCI SOMEERSETENSI
STRENVO IVRIS ACADEMICI DEFENSORI
ACERRIMO LIBERTATIS PUBLICAE VINDICI
STATVAM

LECTISSIMARVM MATRONARVM MVNVS
L. M. PONENDAM DECREVIT
ACADEMIA CANTABRIGIENSIS
QUAM PRAESIDIO SVO MVNIVIT
AVXIT MVNIFICENTIA
PER ANNOS PLVS SEXAGINTA
CANCELLARIVS.

That is, To Charles Duke of Samerset, a strenuous Defender of the Rights of the University, a zealous Assertor of public Liberty, this Statue, the Gift of two most excellent Matrons, was willingly and deservedly placed by the Decree of the University, which he, Chancellor of it above sixty Years, defended by his Power, augmented by his Muniscence.

On the Reverse:

HANC STATVAM
SVAE IN PARENTEM PIETATIS
IN ACADEMIAM STVDII
MONVMENTVM
ORNATISSIMAE FAEMINAE
FRANCISCA MARCHIONIS DE GRANBY CONIVX.
CHARLOTTA BARONIS DE GVERNSEY

S. P. FACIENDAM CVRAVERVNT M.DCC.LVI.

That

That is, This Statue, a Monument of filial Duty to their Parent, of their Affection for the University, the most accomplished Ladies, Frances, Wife of the Marquis of Granby, Charlotte, of Lord Guernsey, caused to be erected at their own Expence, 1756.

On the 29th of April, 1755. his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, Chancellor of this University, attended by the Heads and Doctors, and almost all the Members of the Senate house, proceeded from Clare-hall to the Place intended for the Erection of a new Public Library, and there his Grace, after a short Address in Latin for Success to the Undertaking, laid the first Stone; in the hollow Part of which was placed a great Number of Gold and Silver Pieces of his present Majesty's Coin; and in another Part of it, a Copper Plan, with the following Inscription:

Constantia aternitatique sacrum Latus hoc Orientale Bibliotheca Publica

Egregia Georgii Imi
Britanniarum Regis
Liberalitate locupletatæ
Vetustate obsoletum instauravit
Georgii Ildi Principis optimi
Muniscentia
Accedente

Nobilissimorum virorum
Thomæ Holles Ducis de Newcastle
Academiæ Cancellarii

Philippi Comitis de Hardwick Angliæ Cancellarii
Academiæ fummi Seneschalli
Ac plurimorum Præsulum optimatum,
Aliorumque Academiæ fautorum
Propensa in Rei literariæ incrementum

Splendoremque benignitate Lapidem hunc immobilem Operis exordium ir

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Ipsius auspiciis susceptis
Austoritate, Patrocinio, Procuratione,
Feliciter, Deo propitio, persiciendi,
Circumstante frequentissima Academicorum Corona:
Prid. Kalend, Maii, M.DCC.LV.
Sua manu solemniter posuit
Academiæ Cancellarius.

That is, Sacred to Constancy and Eternity. This Eastfide of the Public Library, enriched by the fingular Liberality of George I. King of Great Britain, when decayed with Age, was rebuilt by the Munificence of the best of Princes George II. with the additional Bounty of the most noble Thomas Holles, Duke of Newcastle, Chancellor of the University, Philip Earl of Hardwicke, Lord High-Chancellor of England, High-Steward of the fame, of feveral eminent Prelates, and other Patrons of the University, warmly affected to the Increase and Splendor of Learning. This immoveable Stone, the Beginning of the Work, under the faid Auspices, Authority, Patronage, and Procuration undertaken, and, by God's Help, to be happily perfected, in Presence of a numerous Affembly of the Gentlemen of the University, the Chancellor thereof laid folemnly, with his own Hand, on the last Day of April 1755.

Some other Benefactions to this University, within

these few Years past, are as follow:

On the Death of Mrs. Addenbroke (Mar. 1720.) Widow of an eminent Physician of that Name, the Sum of about 4000 l. devolved to this University; which, by the Doctor's Will, was to be applied to the building and furnishing a Physical Hospital in Cambridge, in which poor diseased People were to be admitted for Cure gratis. The Master and Fellows of Catharine-hall were appointed Trustees of this Charity. This Hospital was erected a few Years after; but one of the Executors of Mrs. Addenbroke, in whose Hands

the Money was lodged, failed, which put a Stop to the completing of this Building. But in the Year 1758, the University having obtained a Decree in Chancery for a Sum of Money arising from the Estate of the Trustee, in whose Hands the Money had been, they

are now finishing the Building with it.

Dr. John Woodward, who died April 25, 1728. left to the University of Cambridge a Sum of Money, for erecting a Professorship for Natural Philosophy, with a Provision of 150 l. per Annum for the Support and Maintenance of the same for ever. He likewise bequeathed to the said University his Collection of Fossis, and other natural Curiosities, and such a Part of his Library moreover, as was necessary to illustrate his said Collection.

I shall not here enter into the puerile Dispute (which has so much engaged several learned Pens, that might have been better employed), whether this University or that of Oxford is the more antient. Their Emulation ought to be more worthily sounded; and indeed they have so much to boast, as to the great and shining Ornaments they have respectively produced to Church and State, and the Figure they make in the Commonwealth of Learning, that it is strange so trisling a Contention should have been so warmly maintained; only, it must be confessed, that it is more kept up by Tyro's than Adepts.

as one of those many which he erected in divers Parts, to curb his new Subjects. It was strong and stately, and had in it, among other spacious Apartments, a magnificent Hall. This being neglected, the Stones and Timber of it were afterwards begged of Henry IV. by the Master and Fellows of King's-hall, towards the Building of their Chapel. Nothing is now standing but the Gatehouse, which is the Prison, and an artificial

high Hill of a fleep Ascent, and level at Top.

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Adjoining to the Town-hall of Cambridge, is a new Shire-house, built with Brick and Stone, at the Expence of the County; wherein are two Courts; one for Nisi prius, the other for Common Law, which were opened by Lord Chief Justice Willes, and Mr. Baron Clarke, August 11, 1747.

The Town of Cambridge is very large; most of its Streets are narrow, the Houses ill-built, and the greatest Part of them much out of Repair; so that, were it not for the Colleges, and other public Edifices, it would

make but a mean Appearance.

Here is a good Market for Fish, Butter, Gardenware, &c. at the upper End of which is a very handsome Conduit, which supplies the Inhabitants with fresh Water: this is brought by a small Channel from a Brook about three Miles from Cambridge, and is conveyed through the principal Street to the different Parts of the Town; this was made at the Expence of Hobson the Letter-carrier, who left an Estate in Land to the Corporation, for keeping the Channel and Conduit in

constant Repair for ever.

From Cambridge the Road lies North-west, on the Edge of the Fens, to Huntingdon. On the great Post-Road betwixt Royston and Huntingdon stands the little Market town of Caxton, remarkable for being the Birth-place of Caxton, the first Printer in England. The Roman Way passes from Arington N. W. thro' Holm into this Town, and fo on to Papworth, higher up on the same Road; which three last-mentioned Places are Villages only. On this Side, it is all an agreeable Corn Country, adorned with feveral Seats of Gentlemen; but the chief is Wimple-hall, formerly built, at a vast Expence, by a late Earl of Radner. was afterwards bought by his Grace John Holles Cavendish, late Duke of Newcastle; in a Partition of whose vast Estate, it fell to Edward late Earl of Oxford and Mortimer, in Right of his Lady, the only Daughter of the faid Duke; who brought the Earl this Estate.

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Estate, and many others, sufficient to denominate her one of the richest Heiresses in Great Britain; but his Lordship parted with it, a little before his Death, to the Right Honourable the then Lord Chancellor Hardwicke, who now possesses it. It is situated in a very dirty Country; and, notwithstanding the Cost bestowned upon it from its first Owner to this Time, the Gardens and Building are both in a bad Taste.

In the Neighbourhood of this Town, are many Saffron Grounds, where a much greater Quantity of Saf. fron is annually produced than is at present at Saffron Walden; so that the Market which was formerly kept there for this Commodity is now kept at Linton, a small Market-town, of no Note, saving that a Roman

Military Way falls into the Ikening here.

Near this Town is a noble Seat of the Right Honourable Lord Montford, called Horseheath-hall. The House stands on an Eminence, so as to command a Prospect to the opposite Side of the County, which is upwards of twenty Miles. The Building is losty, and the Apartments large; but the two Stair-cases, on each Side of the Hall, occupy such large Spaces, as to lessen the Number of Rooms, which, from the outward Grandeur of the Building, any Person would naturally expect; insomuch that, on viewing the Inside of the House, the Spectator will be surprised to see the Bulk of so large a Front taken up by these Stairs.

The Hall is very noble; it is thirty-five Feet square, and thirty Feet high; the Approach to this Hall, is by a noble Flight of Stone Steps; the Floor being elevated nine Feet from the Ground; so that the Servants Offices are below, on the Level of the Ground; but, besides these, there are two Wings of Offices of a large Extent; so that the whole Front is near 500 Feet in Length: the Park was not very large, but the late Lord added more Land to it: the Roads to this Park from Linton, and through the Park, are made very

good, though it is in a very dirty Country.

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Most of the Lands in this, and some other Parts of this County, are so sull of Melilot, as to fill the Land, and become a very bad Weed; for the Seeds mix with the Corn in such Quantities, as to give a nauseous Taste to their Bread, which is very disagreeable to Strangers, though the Inhabitants, who have been long accustomed to eat it, do not complain of it.

From Cambridgeshire, my Design obliging me, and the direct Road in part concurring, I came back, through the West side of the County of Essex, and first

to Saffron-Walden.

Saffron-Walden is a fair Town, with a good Church. where stands a Monument of the Lord Audley, Chancellor to King Henry VIII. who made him a Grant of certain Lands belonging to a diffolved Monastery near this Town, which takes its Name from the great Quantities of Saffron, which formerly grew in the Grounds, and were cultivated hereabouts, and answered exceeding well in the Manufacturing; but how it came into Decay, nobody could account to me, tho' there may be still seen a great many Acres of Saffron-ground about this Town. This Commodity was never known to grow in England, till the Reign of Edward III. This Town was incorporated by Edward III. with 24 Aldermen, out of whom were yearly chosen a Treafurer (the head Officer for that Year) and two Chamberlains his Affiftants. But by a Charter of King William and Queen Mary, it has a Mayor. It has four Fairs a Year, an Alms-house well endowed, and a Free school on a Royal Foundation.

Near this Town, on the Side of Cambridge Road, stands the noble and stately Palace of Audley-Inn, or Audley-End, formerly the largest Palace in England; and, tho' a great Part of it has been pulled down, is still one of the most magnificent Structures in the Kingdom. It was built, out of the Ruins of the abovementioned Monastery, by Thomas, second Son of Thomas

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Duke of Norfolk, who married the only Daughter and Heir of the afore named Lord Audley. This Thomas was summoned to Parliament in Queen Elizabeth's Time, as Lord Audley of Walden; and was afterwards created Earl of Suffolk by King James I. to whom he was first Chamberlain, and afterwards Lord High. It was defigned for a Royal Palace for that Treasurer. King; and, when it was finished with all the Elegance and polite Tafte of the Times, the King was invited to fee it; and, as he passed to Newmarket, he took up a Night's Lodging there: when, after having viewed it with great Surprize and Astonishment, the Earl asked him, how he approved of it? Who answered, Very well. But troth, Man, faid he, it is too much for a King; but it may do for a Lord High Treasurer; and so left it upon the Earl's Hands, who is reported to have had then an Estate of 50,000 /. a Year, which has been gradually decaying ever fince, and is now reduced to about 3000 l. a Year, with Incumbrances upon it. King Charles II. purchased this House, and so it became, what it was originally defigned for, a Royal Palace. The King mortgaged the Hearth-tax to the Earl, to answer the Purchase-money; and appointed fames, then Earl of Suffolk, Housekeeper thereof, with a Salary of 1000 l. a Year; which Office continued in the Family till the Revolution, when the Hearth-tax was abolished: And, the Exigence of the State being such, as it could not afford to pay the Purchase-money, King William III, re granted the faid House to the Family; upon which Henry Earl of Suffolk (who, in his Father's Life-time, was created Earl of Bindon, to qualify him to hold the Marshal's Staff) pulled down a great Part of this noble Edifice. And yet it is still, as I have faid, very large, and makes a grand Appearance. enter at a wide Pair of Iron Gates, into a most spacious Court-yard, on each Side whereof was formerly a Row of Cloysters, in which stood the Out-offices belonging so the House; which have been all pulled down, and fup-

Stone Wall. You pass in at the Forefront, through Part of the House, into a large open Quadrangle, inclosed by four different Parts of it, and also surrounded with Cloysters. The Apartments above and below are very lofty and spacious; and there is a Gallery, which extends the whole Length of the Back-front of the House, and is judged to be the largest in England. The Gardens are indifferent, but very capable of Improvement. Behind the House is a fine Park, extending to Saffron-Walden, well stored with Deer, but not over-burdened with Timber; in which there is a rifing Spot of Ground, whereon, if the House had been erected, it would have had a much better Effect as to Prospect; for its present Situation is low: neither are the Grounds about it very fertile, nor, I think, the Situation healthy.

But, however great and magnificent this House appears, it bears an indelible Stain, if what is said be true, That it was built with Spanish Gold, upon the Ruin of the Great and Learned Ralegh, who fell by the Revenge of Spain, the Arts of Gundamor, the Avarice of Suffolk, and the unpardonable Weakness of his own

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At a small Town called Littlebury, not far from Audley-Inn, is an House which was erected by the samous Mr. Winstanley, who built Eddystone Light house, and perished in it, as I shall mention in its Place. The same Gentleman was famous also for his Waterworks,

full of whimfical, but ingenious Contrivances.

But I ought not to omit, that near Icleton and Strethal, upon the River Cam, lies Chesterford; where, in the Year 1719, were discovered the Vestigia of a Roman City. The Foundation of the Wals is very apparent quite round, though level with the Ground, including about 50 Acres. Great Part of it serves for a Causeway to the public Cambridge Road from London. The Crown-Inn is built upon it. In the North-west End of the Town is the Foundation of a Roman Temple. Many

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Many Roman Coins have been found in the Borough. field, as they term the antient City, whose Name was Camboritum, according to Dr. Stukely. In this Parish, they say, has been a Royal Manor. Not far off, by Audley Inn, is a great Roman Camp, upon an Eminence, where now stands an Hunting-tower of Brick.

A little North of this Part of the Country rifes the River Stour, which, for a Course of sifty Miles or more, parts the two Counties of Suffolk and Essex; passing through or near Haveril, Glare, Cavendish, Halsted, Sudbury, Buers, Nayland, Stretford, Dedham,

Maningtree, and into the Sea at Harwich.

As we came on this Side, we saw at a Distance Braintree and Bocking, two large and populous Towns, which join together, being parted by a little Stream of These were formerly very rich and flourishing, occasioned by the great Trade for Bays, which were manufactured in fuch Quantities in these two Towns, as to fend weekly to London four, five or fix Waggons laden with them; but this Trade having greatly decreased in a few Years, the Inhabitants were in a very miserable Condition; for, by an Increase of their Poor, their Parish-rates were risen so high, that, in the Year 1738. the Poors Rate in Bocking Parish was nine Shillings in the Pound; which, together with their other Rates and Taxes, rendered it very burdenfome to all the Inhabitants: and at the same time, the Small-pox having infested both the Towns, their Markets were almost deserted by the Country-people. The Parish of Bocking is a Deanry, and the Living is valued at upwards of 500 l. per Annum.

Near Braintree is the Parish of Black-Notley, in which are a few scattered Houses, scarcely worth noticing, except in Honour to the Memory of the late learned Mr. Ray, who was born and resided here some of the latter Years of his Life. Here he also died, and was buried in the Church-yard, over whose Grave a Monument was erected, with an Inscription in Latin;

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which being long, we shall refer the Learned to the Original, and content ourselves with giving the English, for the sake of our common Readers, and in Regard to so great a Man, who was an honour to his

Country. It may be thus rendered:

The mortal Part of the most learned John Ray, A. M. is deposited in this narrow Tomb; but his Writings are not confined to one Nation; and his Fame, every where most illustrious, renders them immortal. Formerly he was Fellow of Trinity-College in Cambridge, and of the Royal Society in London; a fingular Ornament of both. In every kind of Science, as well divine as human, most expert. And, like a fecond Solomon (to whom alone, perhaps, he was inferior), from the Cedar to the Hyffop, from the largest of Animals to the smallest Infects, he arrived at a confummate Knowlege. not only did he most accurately discourse of Plants fpread over the Face of the whole Earth; but, making a most strict Search, even into its inmost Bowels, whatever deserved Discussion throughout all Nature, he described. While on his Travels abroad, he diligently discovered what had escaped the Observation of others, and first brought to Light many things most worthy of Remark. Further than this, he was ' endowed with fo unaffected a manner of Behaviour. that he was learned without Pedantry; of a fublime 'Genius, and at the same time (which is rarely known) of an humble and modest Disposition. Not distinguish-'ed by an illustrious Extraction, but (which is greater). by his own Virtue. Little folicitous about Wealth ' and Titles, he chose rather to deserve than to possess ' them. Content with his own Lot, he grew old in 'a private Station, worthy a more ample Fortune. 'In every other respect, he readily observed Modera-' tion; in Study, none.

'To conclude: To all these Persections he added a Piety free from Artifice; bearing an intire and

Effex.

hearty Veneration for the Church of England, which

he confirmed with his last Breath. Thus, happily,

in a virtuous Retirement, lived he, whom the present

· Age reveres, and Posterity will admire.'

- N. B. This Monument, beginning to want Repair, by standing exposed in the Church-yard, was removed, and set up in the Chancel of Black-Notley Church. To the Epitaph is added, on the Table on the East-side, a Latin Inscription, which may be thus translated:
- This Cenotaph, formerly exposed to the open Air in the Church-yard, defaced by the Injuries of the
- Weather, and just falling into Ruins, was by J.
- Legge, M. D. repaired, and removed under Shelter,

· March 17, 1737.

The Country hereabout is pleasant, having many Risings and Falls, with great Plenty of Water. The Fields are well cultivated, so as to render the whole Face of the Country like a Garden.

Near Braintree is Felsted, a small Place, but noted for a flourishing Free school, of an antient Founda-

tion.

Ingatestone hall, one of the Family-Seats of Lord Petre, lies at a small Distance from the public Road, on the Right-hand, about a Quarter of a Mile short of

Ingatestone Town.

The House is situated very low, so as not to be seen at a small Distance. It is a large, irregular Building, and the Gardens are old; tho' there were many Alterations made in them for the better, by the late Lord, before he came of Age; but as this was not the Seat where he intended to reside, his Lordship did not employ his fine Genius in modelling of these Gardens; but his whole Thoughts were bent to embellish his noble seat at Thorndon, which is situated on a rising Ground, about three Miles on the Right-hand of Brentwood

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Brentwood in Effex: where his Lordship had laid a Plan for an House and Gardens, which, had he lived to execute it, would have been an Honour to the

Nation.

The House was designed to be 265 Feet in Front. exclusive of the Offices. The principal Front was to the South-east Aspect, where was designed a spacious Court: and before it a Terrace-walk near 200 Feet broad, and of a great Length; on the other Side of this, was to have been a Lawn of Grass, containing near 200 Acres of Land, and to be bounded by Plantations of Trees, and handsome Farms.

On the Back front of the House was to be a noble Range of Stoves for tender Exotic Plants; which would have far exceeded whatever had been done of this Nature, even by the greatest Princes in Europe.

The Park, which lies on the North eaft and Northwest Side of the House, is very large, and well stocked with Timber, which, fully grown, adds greatly to the Beauty of the Place. In many Parts of this Park are large Inclosures, made by the late Lord, and converted to Nurseries, completely stored with all Trees and Shrubs, that will live in the open Air in this Climate; so that if these Trees had been planted out, according to his Lordship's Design, it would have been the most beautiful and complete Plantation perhaps in Europe.

Through the Park there is already an Avenue cut leading from Brentwood to the House, three Miles in Length; on each Side of it were to be Plantations of Trees, in regular Clumps, which would have had a noble Effect, as People passed through them up to the

House.

The Kitchen-garden was actually finished, and laid out with great Judgment. This was fituated behind the Offices, fo that it would not have appeared in Sight from the House, and was detached from the other Gardens; and thereby not exposed to Strangers, who might

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garden and Plantations.

In short, the whole Plan was the most extensive and grand of any yet executed in this Kingdom. But his Lordship's immature and much-to-be lamented Death

put a Stop to the further Execution of it.

In the Parish-church of Ingatestone are to be seen the Monuments of this noble Family, who by a constant Series of beneficent Actions to the Poor, and Bounty upon all charitable Occasions, gained to themselves an affectionate Esteem thro' all that Part of the Country, such as no Prejudice arising from a Difference in Religion could or ought to impair; for great and good Actions command our Respect, whatever the religious

Opinions of the Benefactors may be.

From hence we crossed the Country to the great Forest, called Epping-Forest, reaching almost to London. The Country on that Side of Essex is called the Roodings, I suppose because there are no less than ten Towns almost all together, called by the Name of Rooding; and is famous for good Land, good Malt, and dirty Roads, the latter being in the Winter hardly passable for Horse or Man. In the Midst of this we see Chipping-Onger, Hatsield, Broad-Oak, Epping, and many Forest-towns, famed also for Agriculture, and good Malt.

On the South-west of the County is Waltham-Abbey, which was formerly a Monastery, built by Harold, Son to Earl Godwin, in Honour of the Cross. The Town is said to have been built and peopled by one Tovius, towards the Latter-end of the Saxon Reigns. This Town is seated on the River Lee, where the Streams, being divided, inclose several small Islands, which, in times of great Floods, are commonly overslowed: but these Meadows produce great Plenty of Grass in Summer, so that here are many Dairy Farms, which turn

to good Account.

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The Abbey is turned into a Seat. The Gardens belonging to it were, some Years since, in great Repute; but since the Taste for inclosed Gardens has been con-

demned, they have been little frequented.

At this Abbey was buried the Body of King Harold, flain in the great Battle in Suffex, against William the Norman, whose Mother begged that Favour of the Victor; but no Monument was built for him, only a flat Grave-tone, on which was fignificantly engraven,

Harold Infelix!

VOL. I.

From hence I came again over the Lower or Western Part of the Forest, where it is bespangled with Villages, filled with fine Seats, most of them built by Citizens of London; but the Lustre of them seems to be intirely eclipsed by Wansted-House, the magnificent Palace of Earl Tilney, which I barely mentioned, p. 4. and intimated, that I would touch upon it again; as I shall now briefly do.

This noble Seat was prepared by his Lordship's Grandsather, Sir Josiah Child, in his Life-time, who added to the Advantage of its Situation a vast Number of Rows of Trees, planted in curious Order for Avenues and Vistas, all leading up to the Spot of

Ground where the old House stood.

In the Place adjoining, the late Lord, before he was ennobled, and some Years before he began the Foundation of his new House, laid out the most spacious Pieces of sine Ground in Gardens, that are to be seen in this Part of England. The Green-house is an excellent Building, sit to entertain a Prince; it is surnished with Stoves, and artificial Places for Heat, from an Apartment which has a Bagnio, and other Conveniences, which render it both useful and pleasant. These Gardens have been so much the Admiration of the Public, that it has been the general Diversion of the Citizens to go out to see them, till the Crouds grew so great, that his Lordship was obliged to restrain the shewing them to particular and stated Times.

The House was built since these Gardens were finished. It is all of Portland Stone in the Front, which gives it a most magnificent Effect at a Distance; as the Nature of that Stone, except in London, where it is tinged with Smoke, is to grow whiter and whiter, the

longer it stands in the open Air.

As the Fore-front of the House looks through a long Row of Trees, reaching to the great Road at Leighton-stone; so the Back-front respects the Gardens, from which you fall down an easy Descent, which lands you upon the Terrace, and gives a most beautiful Prospect to the River, which is all formed into Canals and Openings, to answer the Views from above; and beyond the River, the Walks and Wildernesses go on to such a Distance, and in such a Manner, up the Hill, as they before went down, that the Sight is lost in the Woods adjoining, and it looks all like one continued planted Garden, as far as the Eye can reach.

I have not room in this Letter to fay half what

might be faid of this truly noble Palace.

From Earl Tilney's House, and the rest of the fine Dwellings on that Side of the Forest (for there are several good Houses at Wansted, only that they seem, as I have said, all lost in the Lustre of his Lordship's Palace), I went South, towards the great Road over that Part of the Forest called the Flats: And by this Turn came necessarily on to Stratford, where I set out. And here I shall conclude my Second Letter, with assuring you, that I am,

Your most humble Servant.

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## LETTER III.

Containing a Description of the County of Kent, &c.

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I SHALL begin my Account of the famous County of Kent at Deptford. It was antiently called West-Greenwich, and is a large Town, and so much improved, that an handsome new Church has been built

there, dedicated to St. Paul.

Here a Storehouse was built by King Henry VIII. who also incorporated certain Officers by the Name of Master and Wardens of the Hely Trinity: these were to take care of the Building, Keeping, and Conducting, of the Royal Navy. Their Hall or House was adjoining to the Church: and the Treasurer of the Navy had also a convenient House at the Dock for his Residence.

Here is a Foundation belonging to the said Corporation of Trinity house, by whom it was built at different Times, and in two Places, not quite contiguous. The old Part contains 21 Houses, the new 38, for decayed Pilots, or Masters of Ships, or the Widows of such; the Men are allowed 20s. the Women 16s. per

Month.

But what Deptford is most noted for, is its noble Dock, where the Royal Navy was used to be built and repaired, till it was found more convenient to build the larger Ships at Woolwich, as I shall mention in its Place; notwithstanding which, the whole Area of the Yard is now enlarged to more than double what it formerly was: It has a wet Dock of two Acres, for Ships, and another of an Acre and Half, for Masts; besides an Inlargement of its Storehouses, Dwelling-houses, Launches, &c. suitable to it.

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From Deptford I proceeded to Greenwich, one of the most delightful Spots in Britain. The Park, in which is the fine Observatory called Flamstead-house, from the late samous Mathematician of that Name, the Royal House, but more especially the noble Hospital, deserve particular Notice.

The Ground on which Part of this Hospital now stands, is the same on which was formerly situated the Royal Palace of our Kings. Here Henry VIII. held his Feasts with Jousts and Tournaments: The Ground, which was called the Tilt-yard, is the Spot on which the

East Wing of the Hospital is built.

The Park was inlarged, walled about, and planted, by King Charles II. soon after the Restoration; and the Design or Plan of a Royal Palace was then laid out, one Wing of which was finished in a magnificent Manner, and makes now the first Wing of the Hospital towards London.

The Royal Palace now remaining, was originally built by Humphry Duke of Gloucester, surnamed the Good, Brother of Henry VI. and called by the said Duke Placentia. King Henry VII. much enlarged it, added to it a small House of Friers-Mendicant, and finished a Tower begun by Duke Humphry on the Top of the Hill, where now stands the Royal Observatory; from which is a most pleasant Prospect down to the winding River, and the green Meadows. It was completed by King Henry VIII. and afterwards much inlarged and beautished by Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, who dwelt in it. Here Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth were born, and here died King Edward VI.

The Hospital was founded by King William and Queen Mary, in the Year 1694. for the Relief of Seamen, their Widows and Children, and Encouragement of Navigation. Three Tables are hung up at the Entrance into the Hall, which record the Names of feveral generous Benefactors to this noble Charity, amounting in the Whole to the Sum of 58,209%. And in the Year 1732, the forfeited Estate of the late Earl

Earl of Derwentwater (being by means of the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Gage, a Peer of Ireland, recovered out of the Hands of certain private Persons who had purchased the same, at a Rate vastly disproportionate to the Value), amounting to near 6000/L per Annum, was given by Parliament to carry on and complete this Work; which has enabled them to prosecute it with such Vigour and Success, that a great Progress has been made since that Time, towards complete this success.

pleting this fumptuous Edifice.

The Hall is very noble, and finely painted by the late Sir James Thornhill. At the upper End of it, in an Alcove, are represented the late Princess Sophia, King George I. King George II. Queen Caroline, the late Queen Dowager of Prussia, Daughter of King George I. Frederic Prince of Wales, the Duke of Gumberland, and the five Princesses, Daughters of King George II. On the Cieling over the Alcove, are her late Majetty Queen Anne, and Prince George of Denmark. And on the Cieling of the Hall, are King William and Queen Mary, with several fine emblematical Figures.

On a Pedestal in the middle of the Area of the Hospital, fronting the Thames, is a Statue of his Majesty

King George II.

Anno 1705. 100 disabled Seamen were the first that were received into this Hospital; but the present Number was made up in December 1737. a complete 1000. To each 100 Pensioners six Nurses are allowed, who are to be Seamens Widows, at 101. per Annum, and 2s. per Week more to those who attend in the Instrumery. Their common Cloathing is Blue, with Brass Buttons.

The Chapel is decorated with curious carved Work, and is as gay, with Gilding, as if the true Protestant

Simplicity were forgotten in its Ornaments, &c.

The Church of Greenwich is a handsome new-built Edifice, dedicated to St. Alphage, Archbishop of Canter-bury, who is said to have been killed by the Danes on the Spot where the Church stands, Anno 1012.

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There are two Free-schools in this Parish, one founded by Sir William Boreman, Knight; the other set up by Mr. John Roan, who left his Estate for teaching Boys in Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic; allowing 40s. a Year for each Boy's Cloaths: their Number is 20.

There is also an handsome College in this Town, which fronts the River, for the Maintenance of 20 poor Men and a Master, founded and well endowed by Henry Earl of Northampton, and committed by him to the Care of the Mercers Company of London. A Chapel belongs to this College, where the Earl's Body is laid, which, as well as his Monument, was removed hither a few Years ago, from the Chapel of Dover Castle, whereof he was Constable.

This Town may be said to be one of the genteelest, as well as pleasantest, in England: the Inhabitants are many of them Persons of Note and Fashion, who have served abroad in the Fleets or Armies, and here passthe Remainder of their Days in Ease and Delight; having the Pleasure to restect upon the Dangers they have gone through, and the saithful and honourable Parts they have acted on the public Stage of Life in their Coun-

try's Caufe.

A Market was erected in the Year 1737. at this Town, the Direction of which is in the Governors of the Hospital; and the Profits which shall arise from it are to be carried to the Use of that fine Foundation.

The River Thames is here very broad, and the Channel deep; and the Water, at some very high Springtides, is salt; but, in ordinary Tides, sweet and fresh.

The King's Yachts always lie here.

Near the Town of Greenwich, has for many Years flood a Magazine for Gunpowder, in which frequently were reposited from 6 to 8000 Barrels. The apparent Danger it was exposed to, of being blown up by Treachery, Lightening, or other Accidents, arising from its defenceless Situation and ruinous Condition, and

and the extensive and scarce reparable Damage, which the Explosion of such a Quantity of Gunpowder might have been attended with, not only to that Part of the Town nearest to it, but to the Royal Palace and the magnificent Hospital there, and which might even by the Shock affect the Dock-yards and Store-houses both at Deptford and Woolwich, and even the Cities of London and Westminster, as well as the Banks of the River on both Shores, and the Navigation upon it, occasioned, so long ago as in the Year 1718. an Application to Parliament for the Removal of the Magazine to some safer and more convenient Place; and his Majesty King George I. was pleased then to give Orders to the Officers of the Ordnance to remove it. But no Provision being made for purchasing Land to build another, and to defray necessary Expences, nothing was done in it; and the old Magazine grew more and more dangerous, and out of Repair.

In the Year 1750. the Application to Parliament was renewed, when his late Majesty gave Orders for an Estimate of the Expence to be laid before the House; which was done in the Year 1754. together with a Survey recommending a proper Place, &c.

The good Work in the Year 1760. was follicited with such proper Effect, that an Act passed in the Beginning of that Year, intitled, An Act for taking down and removing the Magazine for Gunpowder, and all Buildings thereunto belonging, situate near Greenwich in Kent, and erecting instead thereof a new Magazine for Gunpowder at Pursleet, near the River Thames, in the County of Essex, and applying a Sum of Money towards those Purposes; and for obviating Difficulties arising upon an Act, made in the last Session of Parliament, for a weekly Composition for Lands and Hereditaments, purchased for his Majesty's Service at Portsmouth, Chatham, and Plymouth; to which I refer the Reader.

The Country behind Greenwich adds to the Pleasure of the Place: Black-heath, both for Beauty of Situation,

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and an excellent Air, is not outdone by any Spot of

Ground in England.

Near this is a vaft Hill, used as a Butt for Archers, and in great Request among the neighbouring People, till King Henry's VIII's Time; whence it took the Name of Shooter's hill.

On the East-side of Black-heath stands the Hospital built by Sir John Morden, Bart. a Turkey Merchant. Several Years before his Death, which happened in 1708. he erected this spacious Structure, in form of a College, solely at his own Charge, in a Field called Great Stone Field, not far from his own Habitation, for the Reception of poor, decayed, honest Merchants, whereof in his Life-time he placed 12 there. But, by reason of great Losses, they were reduced to four in the Lady Morden's Time, who was forced to retrench the Expences of the House, because the Share allotted her by the last Will of Sir John, and some Parts of his Estate, did not answer so well as was expected.

When she died, Sir John's whole Estate coming to the College, the Number was again increased, and there are at this time 35 poor Gentlemen in the House; and the Number not being limited, they are to be increased as the Estate will afford; for the Building was design-

ed for, and will conveniently hold, 40.

Seven Turkey Merchants have the Direction and Visitation of this Hospital, and the Nomination of the Perfons to be admitted into it; and as often as any of these seven die, the Survivors are to choose others to fill up that Number.

The Treasurer of this Hospital has 40 l. per Annum. There is also a Chaplain, who is to read Prayers twice a Day in the Chapel, and to preach twice every Sunday. His Salary at first was 30 l. a Year; but the Lady Morden doubled it at her Death. She was in other Respects a Benefactress to the College; and as she put up her Husband's Statue in a Niche over the Gate of the College,

College, the Trustees have also put up her's in another

Niche adjoining to that of her Husband.

The Pension is 201. per Annum each. At first they wore Gowns, with the Founder's Badge, which they have not done for some Years.

The Chapel within the College is neatly wainscoted, and hath a costly Altar-piece; and it has a Buryingplace adjoining, for the Members of the College. The Founder, according to his own Defire, was buried ina Vault under the Communion-table of this Chapel.

The Chaplain, the Treasurer, the Merchants, are all indispensably obliged to be resident there; and, unless in case of Sickness, no other Persons are to reside, live, or lodge there; and no one is to be admitted as a Pensioner, who cannot bring a Certificate to prove himself upwards of 60 Years of Age.

In a Word, as the Situation of the Place is pleafant, the Air good, and the Endowment sufficient, this may be faid to be one of the most comfortable and elegant

Pieces of Charity in England.

Near this College is the noble House, or rather Palace, of Sir Gregory Page, Bart. whose Father was a Brewer at Greenwich, a few Years ago. It is one of the finest Seats in England belonging to a private Gentleman; and the Park, Gardens, and Country round it, contribute to make it a most delightful and truly noble Habitation.

It was begun, raised, and covered, in the Space of 11 Months; which shews how soon a large Building, may be finished, where Money, the Sinews of Build-

ing, &c. is not wanting.

On the other Side of the Heath, North, is Charlton; a well-built pleasant Village. The Church was beautified and repaired by Order of Sir Edward Newton, Bart. who was Tutor to King James the First's Son, Prince Henry; and is one of the finest Churches in this County.

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At the Entrance of this Village, fronting Blackheath, stands the antient House built by the same Sir Edward Newtan, who had this Manor granted to him by King James I. It is a long Pile of Building in a Gothic Taste, having sour Turrets on the Top: the Court before the House is spacious, at the Entrance of which are two large Gothic Piers to the Gates, and in a Line on the Outside of the Wall is a long Row of Cypress trees, which are some of the oldest in England. On the Back of the House are large Gardens, remaining in the same Taste in which they were formerly laid out; and behind these is a small Park, which joins to Woolwich-Common. This House is now in the Possession of the Earl of Ancram.

Charlton is noted for the Fair held in its Neighbour-hood on St. Luke's Day, October 18. called Horn-fair; the Rudeness practised in which, in a civilized, well-governed Nation, may well be said to be unsufferable. The Mob at that time take all Kinds of Liberties, and the Women are eminently impudent that Day; as is it were a time that justified the giving themselves a Loose to all manner of Indecency without any Reproach, or without incurring the Censure which such Behaviour would deserve at another.

And this in a Circumstance, which (far from being to be gloried in) ought to be discountenanced by the Sex, as fixing the Brand of Incontinence on too many of them, which they have little Reason to be proud of.

A vulgar Tradition gives the following Origin to this disorderly Fair; namely, That one of the Kings of England, some say King John, for he had a Palace at Ettham in this Neighbourhood, being hunting near Charlton, and separated from his Attendants, entered into a Cottage, and sound the Mistress of it alone; and she being handsome, the King took a Liking to her; and, having prevailed over her Modesty, just in the

the critical Moment her Husband came in; and, threatening to kill them both, the King was forced to discover himself, and to compound with Gold for his Safety, giving the Man moreover all the Land from thence as far as the Place now called Cuckold's Point; and, making him Mafter of the whole Hamlet, established a Fair in favour of his new Demesne; and in Memory thereof, Horns, and Wares and Toys of all

Sorts made of Horn, are fold at this Fair.

Through this Town lies the Road to Woolwich, a Town fituated on the Bank of the River, and wholly taken up by, and in a manner raised from, the Yards and Works erected there for the Naval Service. For here, when the Business of the Royal Navy increased, and Queen Elizabeth built larger and greater Ships of War than were usually employed before, new Docks and Launches were erected, and Places prepared for the building and repairing Ships of the largest Size; because here was a greater Depth of Water, and a freer Channel, than at Deptford.

The Docks, Yards, and all the Buildings belonging; to it, are encompassed with an high Wall, and are exceeding spacious and convenient; and so prodigiously full of all Sorts of Stores of Timber, Plank, Masts, Pitch, Tar, and other Naval Provisions, as can hardly

be calculated.

Besides the Building-yards, here is a large Ropewalk, where the biggest Cables are made for the Men of War; and, on the East or Lower-part of the Town, is the Gun-yard, commonly called the Park, or the Gun-park, where is a prodigious Quantity of Cannon of all Sorts for the Ships of War, every Ship's Guns apart; heavy Cannon for Batteries, and Mortars of all Sorts and Sizes; infomuch that, as I was informed, here have been sometimes laid up at once between 7 and 8000 Pieces of Ordnance, besides Mortars, and Shells almost beyond Number. Hein

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Kent.

Here also is the House where the Firemen and Engineers prepare their Fire-works, charge Bombs, Carcasses, and Grenadoes, for the public Service. The Royal Regiment of Artillery does Duty at Woolwich.

Here is usually a Guard-ship riding, especially in time of War. The Town of late Years is much inlarged and beautified; feveral fine Docks, Rope yards, and capacious Magazines, added; and the Royal Foundery for Cannon repaired and improved. The Thames is here at high Water near a Mile over, and the Water falt upon the Flood; and as the Channel lies strait East and West for about three Miles, the Tide runs very ftrong, and the River is intirely free from Shoals and Sands, and has feven or eight Fathom Water; fo that the biggeft Ships may ride here with Safety, even at low Water.

The Parish-church of Woolwich has been lately re-

built as one of the 50 new Churches.

From this Town, till we come to Gravefend, the whole Shore is low, and spread with Marshes and unhealthy Grounds, except fome few Intervals, where the Land bends inward, as at Erith, Green-bythe, Northfleet, &c. in which Places the Chalk Hills almost join the River; and from thence the City of London, the adjacent Counties, and even Holland and Flanders, are

fupplied with Lime, or with Chalk to make it.

From these Cliffs, on the River-side, the Rubbish of the Chalk, which they must be otherwise at the Charge of removing, is bought and fetched away by Lighters and Hoys, and carried to all the Forts and Creeks in the opposite County of Effex, and even to Suffolk and Norfolk, and fold there to the Farmers to lay upon their Land, which they do in prodigious Quantities, and are glad to give from 2s. 6d. to 4s. a Load for it, acgording to the Distance.

This is the Practice in all the Creeks and Rivers in Effer

Effex, even to Malden, Colchefter, the Nafe, and into Harwich Harbour up to Maningtree and Ipfwich; as also in Suffolk, to Aldborough, Orford, Dunwich, Swold,

and as high as Yarmouth in Norfolk.

Thus the barren Soil of Kent (for fuch the chalky Grounds are effected) makes the strong clay Lands of Effex rich and fruitful; and the Mixture of Earth forms a Composition, which, out of two barren Ex-

tremes, makes one prolific Medium.

Behind these marshy Grounds in Kent, at a small Distance, lies the Road from London to Dover, on which, or near it, are feveral good Towns; for Example, Eltham, formerly a Royal Palace, when the Court was kept at Greenwich; and Queen Elizabeth, who (as before faid) was born at Greenwich, was often carried to Eltham by her Nurses, to draw in the wholfome Air of that agreeable Place; but at present there are few or no Signs of the old Palace to be feen.

It is now, however, a pleasant Town, very handfomely built, full of good Houses; and many Families of rich Citizens inhabit there, who bring a great deal

of good Company with them.

Near Eltham lies Chefilburft, where is the Buryingplace of the Family of the Walfinghams, who resided in

this Parish for several Generations.

This Village is noted for the Retirement of the famous Camden, who resided here for several Years, and here composed the greatest Part of his Annals of

Queen Elizabeth.

From this Side of the Country, all pleafant and gay, we go over Shooters bill, where the Face of Things feems quite altered; for here we have but a chalky Soil, and far from rich; much overgrown with Coppice-wood, which is cut for Fagots and Bavins, and fent up by Water to London. Upon the Top of this Hill, is a Spring which constantly overflows the Well, and in the feverest Winters is not frozen. Here they

make

make those Fagots, which the Wood-mongers call Ostreywood, and in particular those small light Bavins which are used in Taverns in London to light their Fagots, and are called in the Taverns, a Brush, and by the Wood-men Pimps. It is incredible what vast Quantities of these used to be laid up at Woodwich, Erith, and Dartford; but since the Taverns in London are come to make Coal-fires in their upper Rooms, that Trade declines; and though that Article would seem to be trisling in itself, it is not immaterial to observe what an Alteration it makes in the Value of those Woods in Kent, and how many more of them, than usual, are yearly grubbed up, and the Land made sit for the Plough.

Dariford is an handsome large Town, having many good Houses in it, and is finely watered by two or three good Springs; the River goes through the Town, and

discharges itself into the Thames.

The first Mill also, for Slitting of Bars of Iron for

making of Wire, was on this River.

There are two Church-yards here, one about the Church, and the other on the Top of the Hill towards North fleet; in the latter of which you may look over the Tower of the Church, the Ground rising suddenly so very high.

Here is a very good Market for Corn on Saturdays,

and an annual Fair on the 22d of July.

Gravesend lies on the North-side of Kent, on the River Thames, about six Miles East from Dartsord, and about the same Distance from Rochester. The Towns of Gravesend and Milton were incorporated in the 10th Year of Queen Elizabeth, by the Name of the Portreve, Jurats, and Inhabitants, of the Towns of Gravesend and Milton. As this Place is the most frequented Passage of taking Boat for London, by Persons who come from Dover, Rochester, &c. or through any Past of Kent, from foreign Parts, Queen Elizabeth ordered the

the Mayor, Aldermen, and Companies of the City of London, to receive all eminent Strangers and Embassadirs here, in their Formalities, and so to attend them to London in their Barges, if they came by Water: and if they came by Land, they were ordered to meet them on Black-heath, on Horseback, in their Gowns. So much did that wise Queen consult the Honour and Grandeur of the City!

King Henry VIII. raised here a Platform of Guns, and another at Milton, as well as two others over against them on the Essex Side, for the Security of the River. But, since the Erection of Tilbury-fort, these

have been demolished.

Here is a very handsome Charity given by one Mr. Henry Pinnock, in the Year 1624. of 21 Dwellings, and an House for a Master-weaver to employ the Poor:

and a good Estate is also settled for the Repairs.

In this Town, on the East-side, is still standing the Body of an antient Chapel, which seems to have belonged to some Religious Houses for Places in the Walls of the Vault remain still for Holy-water. A Market is kept here on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and an annual Fair on the 13th of October, which lasts a Week.

There have been very great Improvements made of the Lands near this Town within a few Years past, by turning them into Kitchen-gardens, the Land being fresh for this Purpose, as also pretty moist, and the Town having good Quantity of Dung made in it, with which they manure the Land: it produces good Garden-Stuff in great Plenty, wherewith they not only supply the Towns for several Miles round, but also fend great Quantities to the London Markets; particularly Asparagus, which is so much esteemed, that the Name of Gravesend will bring a better Price, than what is brought from any other Place, this having obtained a greater Reputation than Battersea, which was some Years since samous for it.

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As Gravesend is the great Ferry (as they call it) between London and East-Kent, it is hardly credible what Numbers of People pass here every Tide, as well by Night as by Day, between this Town and London. Almost all the People of East-Kent, when they go for London, go no farther by Land than this Town; and then for 9d. in the Tilt-boat, or 1s. in a small Boat or Wherry, are carried to London by Water.

The Passage to and from Gravesend to London is made very commodious and safe for Passengers, by an Act of Parliament passed in 1736-7. for regulating the Company of Watermen, &c. between Gravesend and

Windfor.

One Thing for which this Town deserves Notice, is, that all the Ships which go to Sea from London, take, as we say, their Departure from hence; for here all outward-bound Ships must stop, come to an Anchor, and suffer what they call a second Clearing; to wit, here a Searcher of the Customs comes on board, looks over all the Cockets or Entries of the Cargo, and may, if he pleases, romage the whole Lading, to see if there are any more Goods than are entered; which however they seldom do; tho' they forget not to take a Compliment for their Civility; and, besides being well treated on board, have generally three or five Guns fired in Honour to them, when they go off.

The Method of causing all Ships to stop here is

worth observing, and is as follows:

When a Merchant-ship comes down from London (if they have the Tide of Ebb under Foot, or a fresh Gale of Wind from the West, so that they have what they call Fresh-way, and the Ships come down apace), they generally hand some of their Sails, haul up a Fore-sail or Main-sail, or lower the Fore-top sail, so to slacken her Way, as soon as they come to the Old Man's Head: when they open the Reach, which they call Gravesend Reach, which begins about a Mile and Half

Half above the Town, they do the like, to fignify, that they intend to bring to, as the Sailors call it, and come

to an Anchor.

As foon as they come among the Ships that are in the Road (as there are always a great many), the Centinel at the Block-house on Gravesend Side fires his Musquet, which is to tell the Pilot, he must bring to; if he comes on, as soon as the Ship passes Broad-side with the Block-house, the Centinel fires again; which is much as to say, Why don't you bring to? If he drives a little farther, he fires a third time, and the Language of that is, Bring to immediately, and let go your Anchor,

or we will make you.

If the Ship continues to drive down, and does not let go her Anchor, the Gunner of the Fort is called : and he fires a Piece of Cannon, though without Ball; and that is still a Threat, though with some Patience. and is meant to fay, Will you come to an Anchor, or will you not? If he still ventures to go on, by which he gives them to understand he intends to run for it, then the Gunner fires again, and with a Shot; and that Shot is a Signal to the Fortress over the River, to wit, Tilbury fort, and they immediately let fly at the Ship from the Guns on the East Bastion, and after from all the Guns they can bring to bear upon her; it is very feldom that a Ship will venture their Shot, because they can reach her all the Way to the Hope, and round the Hope-Point almost to Hole-Haven, though it is said, this has been done once or twice; but the Occasion must be very extraordinary to make a Ship run the Risque. As for Ships coming in, they all go by here without any Notice taken of them, unless it be to put Waiters on board, if they are not supplied before.

We see nothing remarkable on the Road hereabouts but Gad's-hill, a noted Place for robbing of Seamen,

after they have received their Pay at Chatham.

From Gad's-bill we come to Rochester Bridge, the highest,

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highest, and the strongest built, of all the Bridges in England, except that of London. Some indeed say, the Bridge of Newcastle upon Tyne exceeds all the Bridges in England for Strength; but then it is neither so high, nor so long, as this at Rochester. It it is supported by 11 Arches, and was built by Sir Robert Knowles in the Reign of Henry IV. and railed in with Iron at the

Charge of Archbishop Warham.

The River Medway, at this Place, is very broad and rapid. Rochester was the Roman City Durobrivis, and was very strong, being walled about and ditched. Many Antiquities have been found hereabouts. This City stands in an Angle of the River, and seems to have been of a square Form, the Watling street running directly through it. Most of the Walls still remain; and a large Piece of the Roman Wall, made of Rubblestone laid sloping side-ways, is to be seen near that Angle below the Bridge, encompassed by the River with Roman Bricks in several Places.

Rochester, Stroud, and Chatham, are three distinct

Places, but in a manner contiguous.

Rochester has suffered very much by Fire and War. It consists chiefly of a large ill-built broad Street. Stroud is separated from it only by the Bridge, and may alone pass for a small City, and is well-built, but has

nothing very remarkable in it.

The Castle of Rochester was erected by King William I. upon one Angle of the River. The Walls of the great Tower now left are four Yards thick. The Body of the Cathedral was built before the Conquest, and repaired by Bishop Gundulph, who likewise built the Castle. The great Tower is called Gundulph's Tower. The chalky Cliff under the Castle wall, next the River, is a romantic Sight. The Rapidity of the Stream wastes it away, and then huge Tracts of the Wall fall down. On the North-side of the North west Tower of the Church is Gundulph's Effigies. The

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Front of the Church is of the old Work, but a new Window put in the Middle. The Eastern Gate of the City was pulled down not very long ago, the Stones of which were of a Roman Cut. The Town house and Charity school are two of the best public Buildings in Rochester and Stroud, except the Churches. Rochester

returns two Members to Parliament.

But Chatham being the chief Arfenal of the Royal Navy of Great Britain, is the most considerable of the Kind in the World. It was made a Royal Yard by Queen Elizabeth, and owed its first Establishment to that great Seaman Sir John Hawkins, who deferves to be stiled the Father of our Mariners, for settling that inestimable Fund of Charity there, denominated from thence the Cheft of Chatham. The private Buildings, as the Houses of the Sea-Officers, Directors, Inspectors, and Workmen belonging to the Royal Navy, are well-built, and many of them stately. But the public Edifices there, are, indeed, like the Ships themselves, furprifingly large, and in their several Kinds beautiful. The Warehouses, or rather Streets of Warehouses, and Storehouses for laying up the Naval Treasure, are the largest in Dimension, and the most in Number, that are any-where to be feen in the World. The Ropewalks for making Cables, and the Forges for Anchors and other Iron-work, bear a Proportion to the rest; as also the Wet-dock, Canals, and Ditches, for keeping Masts and Yards of the greatest Size, where they lie funk in the Water to preserve them: the Boat-yard, Rope-yards, the Anchor-yard, Forges, Founderies, all not easy to be described.

We come next to the Stores themselves, for which all this Provision is made; and, first, to begin with the Ships that are laid up there: The Sails, the Rigging, the Ammunition, Guns, great and small Shot, small Arms, Swords, Cutlasses, Half pikes, with all the other Furniture belonging to the Ships that ride at their Moorings in the River Medway, Powder excepted,

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which is generally carried to particular Magazines, to avoid Difaster; all these Stores are reposited in separate Buildings and Storehouses, appropriated for the Furniture of every Ship, and may be taken out on the most emergent Occasion, without Consusion.

Besides these, are Warehouses for laying up the Furniture, and Stores for Ships in general, and for the furnishing other Ships to be built, or for repairing and supplying the Ships already there, as Occasion may re-

quire.

For this Purpose there are separate and respective Magazines of Pitch, Tar, Hemp, Flax, Tow, Resin, Oil, Tallow; also of Sail-cloth, Canvas, Cables, standing and running Rigging, ready sitted, and Cordage not sitted; with all Kinds of Ship-chandlery Necessaries, such as Blocks, Tackles, Runners, &c. with the Cooks, Boatswains, and Gunners Stores, and also Anchors of all Sizes, Grapnels, Chains, Bolts, and Spikes, wrought and unwrought Iron, Cast iron Work, such as Pots, Caldrons, Furnaces, &c. also Boats, spare Masts and Yards, with a great Quantity of Lead and Nails, and other Necessaries, too many to be enumerated.

To observe these Things deliberately, one would almost wonder what Ships they were, and where they should be found, which could either for Building or Repairing, Fitting or Resitting, call for such a Quantity of all these Things: but when, on the other hand, one sees the Ships, and considers their Dimensions, and consequently the Dimensions of all things which belong to them, how large, how strong, every thing must be, how much of the Materials must go to the making every thing proportionable to the Occasion, the Wonder would change its Prospect, and one would be as much amazed to think how and where they should be supplied.

The particular Government of these Yards is very remarkable, the Commissioner, Clerks, Accomptants,

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&c. within Doors; the Store-keepers, Yard-keepers. Dock keepers, Watchmen, and all other Officers without Doors, with the Subordination of all Officers, one to another respectively, as their Degrees and Offices The Watchmen are fet duly every Night at flated and certain Places within the feveral Yards, with every one a Bell over his Head, which they ring or toll every Hour, giving fo many Strokes as the Hour reckons; and then one taking it from another through every Part of the Yard, and of all the Yards, makes the Watch be performed in a very exact and regular In the River is a Guard-boat, which, like the Main-guard in a Garison, rows the Grand Rounds at certain Times, by every Ship in the River, to fee that the People on board are at their Post: if the Man placed to look out in each Ship does not call, Who comes there? the Guard-boats board it immediately, to examine into the Defect of Duty.

The Expedition that has been sometimes used here in fitting out Men of War, is scarce credible; for the Workmen told us, That the Royal Sovereign, a First-rate of 106 Guns, was riding at her Moorings, intirely unrigged, and nothing but her three Masts standing, as is usual when a Ship is laid up; and that she was completely rigged, all her Masts up, her Yards put to, her Sails bent, Anchors and Cables on board, and the Ship sailed down to Black-Stakes in three Days, Sir

Cloudefly Shovell, being then her Captain.

I do not vouch the Thing: but when I consider, first, that every thing lay ready in her Storehouses, and wanted nothing but to be brought out and carried on board; 1000 or 1500 Men to be employed in it, and more, if wanted; and every Man knowing his Bustness persectly well; Boats, Carriages, Pullies, Tackles, Cranes, and Hulk, all ready; I do not know but it might be done in one Day, if it were tried. Certain it is, the Dexterity of the English Sailors, in those Things is not to be matched by any in the World.

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The Building-yards, Docks, Timber-yard, Deal-yard, Mast-yard, Gun-yard, Rope-walks, and all the other Yards and Places set apart for the Works belonging to the Navy, are like a well-ordered City; and though the whole Place is, as it were, in the utmost Hurry, yet you see no Consusion; every Man knows his Business; the Master-builders appoint the Working or Converting, as they call it, of every Piece of Timber, and give to the other Head-workmen, or Foremen, their Moulds for the squaring and cutting out of every Piece, and placing it in its proper Byrth (so they call it) in the Ship that is in Building; and every Hand is busy in pursuing those Directions, and so in all the other Works.

Fanuary 1, 1756. Notice was given to the Inhabitants in the Neighbourhood of Chatham Dock, (from the Entrance of Smithfield-Bank to the Hill-house) to quit their Houses in 30 Days; Intrenchments being to be thrown up in their Room; about which necessary Work of Defence, the Soldiers quartered in that Neighbourhood directly began, with an Augmentation of Sixpence a Day to their Pay, fo that within these three or four Years past, the Fortifications which surround the Dock-yard are greatly strengthened and enlarged, as well on the Extremities of the Dock-yard on the River Medway, as on the Land-fide towards Brumpton, where they are near three Miles in Circumference, fenced with a strong Barricado of very stout Timbers, and a deep dry Ditch; and at proper Diftances are Bastions, faced with Stone and Sods, and are well fortified with heavy Cannon; which Bastions are fo disposed and fituated, that were an Enemy to get Possession of the first, next Gillingham, towards the Entrance of the River, it is so exposed to the Fire from the fecond as not to be maintained but at great Hazard, and fo one annoys the other progressively, to the great Fort at the Entrance of the Dock-yard, contiguous to the Town of Chatham, which exceeds a Mile he

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Mile in Length, the Buildings whereof are not elegants being chiefly inhabited by the Workmen of the Dockyard, where are now constantly employed 2200 Men.

By the new additional Works and Fortifications on the Land side aforementioned, is inclosed Brumpton-hill, of a considerable Height and Extent, whereon is lately erected three Ranges or Streets of Houses, parallel to each other; they are three Stories high, with Garrets, neatly sashed, &c. which serve as Barracks for the Soldiers.

They are still continuing the said Buildings, all neat and uniform, so that for Beauty, Strength, Convenience, and the immense Quantities of all Sorts of Stores for the building and equipping the largest Ships of War, this Dock-yard of Chatham may justly be deem-

ed the most complete of any in the World.

Rochester has two Markets, on Wednesdays and Fridays, and, by Grant from King Henry I. two annual Fairs; viz. May the 19th, and November the 30th. The Ground on that Side of the Town next the River is very low and marshy, being overslowed by every high Tide, which renders the Situation unpleasant, and the Air unwholesome, from the Vapours which arise from these salt Marshes.

It may not be amiss in this Place to take Notice, that there is in the River Medway, at Rochester, and in several of its Creeks and Branches within the Jurisdiction of the City, an Oyster-fishery, which is free to every one who has served seven Years Apprenticeship to any Fisherman or Dredger, who is free of the said Fishery; and the Mayor and Citizens of Rochester hold a Court, commonly called An Admiralty Court, once a Year, or oftener, when Occasions have required it, for the regulating of the said Fishery, and to prevent Abuses committed in it. In these Courts they appoint from time to time, when Oysters shall and shall not be dredged and taken, which they call opening and shutting the Grounds; also the Quantity each Dredgerman shall

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take in a Day, which is usually called Setting the Stint. They have a Power to go on Board, and enforce these Orders; and when they have not found them duly obferved, or that the Brood or Spat has been taken. which should have been preserved, they seize and throw into the River and Creeks the Brood, or such Oysters

as have exceeded the prescribed Quantity.

Persons who dredge or fish for Oysters, not being free of the Fishery, are called Cable hangers, and are prefented and punished by the Court. Every licensed Dredger pays 6s. 8d. yearly to the Support of the Courts. But several licentious Persons having, in Process of Time, contested the Authority of this Court, and great Inconveniencies arising from it, to the endangering the Fishery, and to the Destruction of all good Order and Rule, the Corporation and free Dredgermen applied to Parliament, and an Act passed, Anno 1729. establishing the Jurisdiction of the City of Rochefter, and enforcing the Authority of the faid Courts; and fince that another Act explaining and supplying Defects; fo that at prefent this Fishery is in a flourishing Condition, and all fair Dealers find their Account in it.

It is about 16 or 18 Miles from Rochester Bridge to Sheerness Fort by Water, on the River Medway; of this it is about 14 Miles to Black-stakes. The Channel is so deep all the Way, the Banks so soft, and the Reaches of the River fo short, that, in a Word, it is the fafest and best Harbour in the World; and we saw two Ships of 80 Guns, each riding affoat at Low-water, within Musquet shot of Rochester Bridge. ride as in a Mill pond, or a Wet-dock, except that being moored at the Chains, they fwing up and down with the Tide; but as there is Room enough, they are moored in such a manner, that they cannot swing foul of one another: nor did I ever hear of any Accident that befel any of the King's Ships here by Storms and Weather, except in that dreadful Tempest in 1703.

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when the Royal Catharine was driven on Shore, and, receiving Damage, funk; and the Ship, being old,

could not be weighed up again.

There are two Castles on the Shore of this River. opposite to each other, the one at Upnor, the other called Gillingham Castle, both designed to guard two Reaches of the River; besides at a Place called The Swamp, a Fort now known by the Name of Bird's-Nest Fort, and another at Cockham Wood, all which, (tho' they might be made of great Service in Time of War, in case of such another daring Attempt as the Dutch made upon the Royal Navy in this River, on the 22d of June 1667) I found strangely neglected when I last visited them, which was so lately as in the Year 1752. I own, I was furprized at this Neglect; and hope it is not, now (that we are at War with our natural Enemy the French) continued; and yet our Superiority at Sea, the Fort at Sheerness, the new Fortifications at Chatham, I doubt not, will be fufficient to prevent our ever receiving fuch another Affront from any Enemy whatever, for at that time all was left unguarded; and every thing concurred to invite the Enemy. There were about 12 Guns at the Me of Shepey, where now Sheerness Fort is built; the Dutch foon dismounted most of them; after which they went boldly up to Black stakes with their whole Squadron; and seven of their biggest Men of War went up as high as Upnor, where they did what Mifchief they could, and on their retiring carried off the Royal Charles, a First-rate Ship of 100 Guns, burning the London, and several others, besides damaging most of the Ships that were within their Reach; and, all things confidered, it was a Wonder they went away without ruining all the rest of the Navy that was in that River.

Sheerness, which guards the Entrance into the River at the Point of the Isle of Shepey, is a regular Fortification, and has such a Line of heavy Cannon commanding the Mouth of the River, that no Fleet of Men of Vol. I.

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War could attempt to pass by, without hazarding

being torn to pieces.

It is not only a Fortress, but a good Town with feveral Streets in it, and Inhabitants of feveral Sorts, but chiefly fuch, whose Business obliges them to refide here. The Officers of the Ordnance have here an Office; they being often obliged to be at this Place many Days together, especially in Time of War, when the Rendezvous of the Fleet is at the Nore, to fee to the furnishing every Ship with military Stores, as Need requires, and to cheque the Officers of the Ships in their Demands of those Stores, &c.

Here is also a Yard for building Ships, with a Dock. intended chiefly for repairing Ships that may meet with any sudden Accident. But then it is to be observed, that those are generally but for Fifth and Sixth-rate Ships, small Frigates, Yachts, and such Vessels; tho' once, when I was there, I faw one upon the Stocks of 64 Guns \*. This Yard is a late thing also, and built many Years fince that Fort. In making fome Alterations at Sheerness, Anno 1760. a Ball was found that weighed 64 Pounds, supposed to have been fired by the

Dutch in their Attempt above-mentioned.

Shepey Ifle is supposed to be so called, from its being one of the first Places in England, where Sheep were kept, or from its affording great Plenty of those useful Animals. This Island is encompassed with the mixed Waters of the Thames and the Medway on the West, with the Swale on the South, and with the main Ocean on the North and East. It hath great Plenty of good Corn, but wants Wood. It is about 21 Miles in Compass. Copperas and Brimstone were formerly made in the Isle of Shepey.

Here are feveral Tumuli, in the marshy Parts all over the Island, some of which the Inhabitants call Coterels: these are supposed to have been cast up in Memory of some of the Danish Leaders, who were buried here;

<sup>\*</sup> It is now very much augmented, and rendered in all Respects fo commodious, that Ships of great Force are built there,

for the Danes have often made this Mand the Scene of

their Ravages and Plunder.

There was antiently a Bridge and Causeway between this Isle and Harty: this was called Thrembethebridge, as afterwards the Ferry was called Tremod-Ferry. The common Way into this Island, from the main Land of Kent, is by King's-ferry, where a long Cable of about 140 Fathom, being faitened at each End across the Water, serves to get over the Boat by Hand.

On the main Side of the Ferry is a small Stone Building, which will hold nine or ten Persons: this is faid to have been erected by one George Fox, who flaying once there a long while in the Cold, waiting for the Ferry-boat, and being much affected with it, built this Place to shelter others from the like Inconvenience. For the Maintenance of this Ferry, and keeping up the Highway leading to it, through the Marshes, for above a Mile in Length, the Land-occupiers tax themselves one Peny per Acre for fresh Marsh-land, and one Peny for every 10 Acres of falt Marsh-land per Annum. This Tax, together with some Lands belonging to the Ferry, has from time to time kept the faid Ferry and Causeway with a Wall against the Sea, in good Repair: as also the Boats, Cables, and an House for the Ferry. keeper, who is obliged to tow all Travellers over free. except on four Days yearly; viz. Palm-monday, Whitmonday, St. James's Day and Michaelmas, when an Horseman pays two Pence, and a Footman one Peny: but on Sundays, or after Eight o'Clock at Night, there is no Passage gratis; so that at such times the Ferrykeeper will demand fix Pence of every Horseman, and two Pence of every Footman; and in thefe Cases the Land-occupiers pay as well as Strangers. The Keeper of this Ferry is allowed 24 l. per Ann. by the Land occupiers, befide what he makes in carrying over Pafsengers in the Night-time, and on Sundays: and to this he has another Perquifite added; which is to dredge for Oysters within the Compass of his Ferry-look, which H 2

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extends one Tow's Length (as they term it); i. e. 60 Fathoms, on each Side of the Castle.

In the upper Grounds of this Island is great Plenty of good Corn; but equal Scarcity of fresh Water, most

of their Springs being brackish.

A great Number of marine Plants grow in the falt Marshes, which induce the Curious in Botany to visit this Island frequently in the midst of Summer, when the Plants are in Persection.

At the South-west Point of the Isle of Shepey, where the East Swale parts from the West, and passes on as above, stands Queenborough; so called by King Ed. gward III. in Honour of his Queen Philippa, Daughter to William Earl of Hainault and Holland. Here was a Castle erected by King Edward III. as a Defence of the Mouth of the River Medway. In the Building of this Castle, that Prince was assisted by William of Wickham, who was then Surveyor of the King's Works, and afterwards Bishop of Winchester. This Castle was repaired in the Year 1536. by King Henry VIII. who at the same time built others at Deal, Walmer, &c. for the Defence of the Sea-coasts. The Governors of Queenborough Caffle were formerly honoured with the Title of Constable; and by the List of them it appears, that many of them were Men of great Confideration.

At present there are not any Remains of this Cassle to be seen; the Ground where it stood is moated round; and there is a Well about 40 Fathom deep, still remaining. By the several Ordinances which were made by King Edward III. relating to Naval Assairs, it appears this Place was then very samous; but at present it is a miserable dirty Fishing town; yet has a Mayor, Aldermen, &c. and sends two Burgesses to Parliament; although the chief Traders of this Town seem to be Alehouse-keepers and Oyster-catchers, and their Votes at an Election for Parliament-men are the principal Branch of their scandalous Trassick. A pernicious Practice!

Practice! too much followed in better Towns, and which may one Day be of fatal Consequence to the Liberties of Britain.

Here we took Boat, and went up the East Swale to Milton, or Middleton, as formerly called, which lies, as it were, hid among the Creeks; for it is almost out of Sight as well by Water as by Land; and yet it is a large Town, has a considerable Saturday Market, for Corn, Fruit, and other Provision; and the Oysters taken in the Grounds about this Town are the most samous of any in Kent. This Town is governed by an Ossicer, who is called by the old Saxon Name Portreve; he is chosen annually on St. James's Day, and supervises the Weights and Measures all over the Hundred of Milton. It had antiently a Royal Palace for the Kentish Kings.

I took a View, while I was in these Parts, of Cobbam-hall, six Miles from Chatham, the Seat of the Earl of Darnley, an handsome Brick House, built by Inigo-Jones, and remarkable for the excellent Marble Chim-

ney-pieces in most of the Rooms.

At Raynham Church, near Rochester, we saw several Monuments of the Family of the Earl of Thanet; and

the Steeple is reckoned a Sea-mark.

From hence, keeping the Coast and the great Road together (for they are still within View of one another), we come to Sittingbourn, formerly a Market town, but still a considerable Thoroughfare, and full of good Inns.

Just by the Town are the Ruins of a Fortification raised by King Alfred, when in Pursuit of the Danes, called Bavord castle. Here they boast much of one Norwood having entertained King Henry V. on his triumphant Return from France; and though the Entertainment was, according to the Times, very elegant, yet the whole Expence of it amounted to no more than 9s. 9d.

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In January 1737-8. were found in a Shave belonging to the Estate of Sir John Hales, who lives in this Neighbourhood, and within his Manor of Tunstall, near Sittingbourn, several hundred Broad-pieces of Gold, which were thought to have been concealed in the Civil Wars by an Ancestor of Sir John. They were found by a poor Boy, who was rambling in the Coppice; and not knowing their Value, was playing with some of them at a Farmer's, who got Possession of them; but, not being able to keep the Secret, he resunded 624 of the Broad-pieces for the Use of the Crown, tho' Sir John laid Claim to the Whole, as did the Lord of the Manor of Milton, which is paramount

to that of Tunstall.

From Sittingbourn we came to Feversham; a large fair Town, having one long and broad Street: it has a good Market-house, where the Market is kept on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and there are two annual Fairs in this Town, of 10 Days each; viz. on February the 14th, and on August the 1st. This Town is well peopled, and in a flourishing State, being in the Neighbourhood of one of the best Parts of Kent, and having a commodious Creek to bring in, or carry out, their Goods; but many of the Inhabitants have carried on the Smuggling Trade for Years, for which this Creek lies very convenient. Brandy, and often French Wines, are fold here at low Rates, especially at such times as the Smugglers have been apprehenfive of Difcovery; to prevent which, they have been known to fell their Wines to any Persons who would venture to purchase them, for 2 d. a Quart.

The Fishermen here have a good Custom: They will admit no one to take out his Freedom, unless he be a married Man. The Trade for Oysters here with the Dutch is so large, as to bring in between 2 and 3000l. per Ann. ready Money, from Holland, for

this Commodity only.

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The Fishermen of this Town have a Law among themselves, by which they are restrained from bringing Oysters into the Town but at certain Times, and in limited Quantities, so that it is impossible to get any

Oysters there, but at particular times.

At Feversham are the Remains of a Monastery, founded by King Stephen, where he was buried with his Family. At present nothing is left but two Gatehouses, of mean Structure. At the Dissolution, they say, the Cossin of Lead, which held the Royal Body, was taken up and sold; but the Corpse was thrown into the Thames, and taken up by some Fishermen. Here, in the Year 903. King Ethelstan enacted Laws.

It was at the Mouth of this Swale, namely, at Shellness, so called from the Abundance of Oyster-shells always lying there, that the Smack in which the late King James II. embarked for his Escape into France. ran on Shore, and being boarded by the Fishermen, the King was taken Prisoner; the Fishermen and Rabble treated him, even after they were told who he was, with the utmost Indecency, using his Majesty with fuch personal Indignity, and fearthing him in so rude a manner, that the King himself said, be was never more apprehensive of losing his Life than at that time. He was afterwards carried by them up to the Town, where he was not more nobly treated for fome time. till certain neighbouring Gentlemen of the County came in, who understood their Duty better, by whom he was preserved from farther Violence, till Coaches and a Guard came from London, by the Prince of Orange's Order, to conduct him with Safety and Freedom to London; where he was much better received.

his Queen, in Feversham, I know nothing else this Town is remarkable for, except the most notorious Smuggling Trade, which I have mentioned, and which is carried on partly by the Assistance of the Dutch in their Oyster-boats; nay, even the Owling Trade, or

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clandestine Exporting of Wool, seems removed from Romney Marsh, to this Coast; and a great deal of it has been carried on between the Mouth of the East

Swale and the North Foreland.

From this East Swale, and particularly from these three Towns, Queenborough, Milton, and Feversham, the Fish-market at Billingsgate is supplied with several Sorts of Fish; but particularly with the best and largest Oysters, such as some call Stewing, others Milton Oysters; as they are from the Essex Side with a smaller as well as with a greater Sort, called Wallsteet.

I shall now cross the Hills from Milton to Maidstone, on the River Medway, near 10 Miles distant from Ro-

chester to the South-east.

Maidstone is a very antient Town: the River Medway, over which it has a Bridge, is navigable up to it by large Hoys, of 50 or 60 Tons Burden, the Tide flowing quite up to the Town. In 1739, an Act passed for making it surther navigable, of which I shall take proper Notice, when I come to speak of the Timber in Sussex.

Here is carried on a Manufacture of Linen-thread, and likewise, in the Neighbourhood, are great Flantations of Hops, which were supposed to be first planted here at the Beginning of the Reformation; which gave

Occasion to the following Distich;

Hops, Reformation, Bays, and Beer, Came into England all in a Year.

Maidstone is eminent for Plenty of Provisions, for Richness of Lands, and for the best Market in the County, not excepting either Rochester or Canterbury. It has also an handsome Bridge, which, in the Opinion of some, is inferior only in Length to that of Rochester.

From this Town, and the neighbouring Parts, London is supplied with more Particulars than from any

fingle Market-town in England.

I. From

have

1. From the Weald of Kent, which begins but about fix Miles off, and particularly from that Part which lies this Way, they bring the large Kentish Bullocks.

2. From hence are brought great Quantities of the largest Timber for Supply of the King's Yards at Chatham, and often to London; most of which is at present brought by Land-carriage to Maid-stone.

3. From the Country adjoining, great Quantities of Corn are brought up to London; also Hops, Ap-

ples, and Cherries.

4. A Kind of Paving Stone, called Kentish rags, about eight or ten Inches square, exceeding

durable, used to pave Court-yards, &c.

5. Fine white Sand for the Glass-houses, esteemed the best in England for melting into Flint glass, and Looking glass Plates; and for the Stationers

Use also; vulgarly called Writing fand.

All that Side of the County which I have mentioned, as it is marshy and unhealthy, by its Situation among the Waters, is chiefly inhabited by Ship-builders, Fishermen, Seafaring men, and Husbandmen, and such as depend upon them; and very sew Families of Note are found among them. But as soon as we come down Boxley hill from Rochester, or Hollingbourn-hill from Milton, to the well-watered Plain on the Banks of the Medway, we find the Country every where bespangled with populous Villages, and delicious Seats of the Nobility and Gentry; and especially on the North-side of the River, beginning at Aylesford on the Medway, the Seat of the Earl of that Name, and looking East towards the Sea, to Eastwell near Ashford, the Seat of the Earl of Winchelsea.

There is not much Manufacturing in this County: what is left, is chiefly at Canterbury, and in this Town of Maidstone, and its Neighbourhood. The Manufacture of this Town is principally Linen thread, as I

have faid, which they make to pretty good Perfection, though not extraordinary fine. At Cranbrook, Tenterden, Goudhurst, and other Villages in the Neighbourhood of this Place, was once a considerable Cloathing-trade carried on; and the Yeomen of Kent, of whom so much has been said by Fame, and who inhabited these Parts, were generally much enriched by it; but that Trade is now quite decayed, and scarce 10 Clothiers left in all the County.

In this Neighbourhood there is a large Paper-mill erected, where the best English Writing Paper is made, which is equal in Goodness to any brought from

Holland.

The Farmers, and Descendents of these Clothiers, upon the Elections of Members for the County, shew themselves still there; for there are ordinarily 14 or 1500 Freeholders brought from this Side of the County, who, for the Plainness of their Appearance, are called the Grey Coats of Kent; but are so considerable, that whoever they vote for is sure to carry it; and therefore the Gentlemen are very careful to preserve their

Interest among them.

This Town of Maidstone is a Peculiar of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is the proper Incumbent, and puts in a Curate to officiate for him. The Archbishop has a Palace here, which is effeemed very antient, to which there is a Chapel belonging. Architecture is Gothic, but good of the Kind; and fome Parts of it have been repaired after the modern Manner. Maidstone was a Roman Station, named Vagniacis or Madviacis, from the British Word Medwag, the Meadows on the River Voga, which are here beautiful. The Archiepifcopal Palace was founded by John Ufford, and finished by Simon Islip. The College or Hospital was erected by Archbishop Boniface, and a Chantry by Thomas Anindel, now the Free-school. About the Year 1720. feveral Canoes were dug up, made of hollowed Trees, in the Marshes of the River Medway

Medway above Maidstone. In the Lands of Dr. Dodd at Addington, near Malling, in the Year 1720. a British Coin of Amber was found in the Foundation of a Stone Wall: the Convex Side was plain; on the Concave was a British Horse, rude enough.

The Affizes are fometimes held here, and always the County Elections. It is governed by a Mayor and 12 Jurats, and returns two Members to Parliament.

Charing, not far off, was the antient Durolenum, fituated upon a Spring of the River Len. Here the Archbishops of Canterbury had a castellated Palace, given them by some of the first Saxon Kings, of which

there are large Ruins.

In my Way to Maidstone, on a former Journey, K faw Mareworth Castle, the Seat of the Earl of Westmoreland; a fine Piece of Architecture, defigned by Colin Campbell, in Imitation of an House in Italy built by the famous Palladio. It is a Square, extending 88 Feet, and has four Porticoes of the Ionic Order. In the Middle there rifes above the Roof a femicircular Dome, which has two Shells; the one forms the Stucco Cieling of the Salon, being 36 Feet Diameter; the outward Shell is Carpentry, covered with Lead. Between these two Shells is a strong Brick Arch, that brings 24 Funnels to the Lantern; which is finished with Copper: but by this Contrivance the Misfortune is, that the Chimneys often smoke. On a rising Ground, within a Mile of Aglesford, I viewed an Antiquity, vulgarly called Kettscotty-house; which are three great Stones piled on each other, and deemed the Tombs of Kentigern and Horbus, two Danish Princes,. flain in Battle, and there buried.

In profecuting my Journey from Maidstone to Canterbury, I cannot belp mentioning Lenham, a Towns about 17 Miles distant from that City; in relation towhich the Right Rev. Continuator of Camden records

the following extraordinary Circumstance:

At Lenham, fays he, is a Thing exceeding remarkable, mentioned on the Tomb of Robert Thomb-

on, Esq; in the Church there, who was Grandchild

to that truly religious Matron, Mary Honeywood, Wife of Robert Honeywood, of Charing, Esq. She

had at her Decease, lawfully descended from her,

· 367 Children; 16 of her own Body; 114 Grand-

children; 228 in the third Generation; and 9 in

4 the fourth. Her Renown liveth with her Posterity;

her body lieth in the Church; and her Monument

may be feen in Mark's hall, in Effex, where she

" died."

From hence I pursued my Journey to Canterbury, which all Writers agree was called, by the Britons, Kent, and is the Duroverno of the Romans; of which Town, and its Antiquities, fo much has been faid, and fo accurately, that I need no more than mention it briefly. However, I observe here,

1. That Augustine, the Monk, the first Christian Preacher that came from Rome into this Island, settled in this Place: but that he was the first that preached Christianity in the Island (as some have suggested) is a Mistake; as the famous Conference between him and the Monks of Banchor in Wales sufficiently testifies.

2. That feven Archbishops of Canterbury, including

that Augustine, lie buried here in one Vault.

3. That Thomas à Becket, Archbishop of this See, insulted the King his Sovereign in an unsufferable Manner; infomuch that in the Reign of Henry II. he was here murdered by the Connivance, as fome fay, of the King; and they shew what they call his Blood upon the Pavement at this Day.

4. That they shew the Stone Steps ascending to his Shrine (he being afterwards canonized) worn away to a Slope, by the Knees of the Pilgrims, who vifited

it.

5. That the Bodies of King Henry IV. and of Edward the Black Prince; are buried here; and the magnificent nificent Effigies of the latter, very curiously carved, hes on his Tomb or Monument. Here is a pretty Chapel, originally designed for the Celebration of Masses for the

Soul of King Henry IV.

of That the immense Wealth offered by Votaries and Pilgrims, for several Ages, to the Shrine of Becket, was such, that the samous Erasmus, who saw it, says of it thus: All shone, sparkled, glittered, with rare and very large Jewels; and even in the whole Church appeared a Prosuseness above that of Kings. In short, Gold was one of the meanest Treasures of his Shrine: and at the Dissolution, as Dugdale observes, the Plate and Jewels filled two great Chests, each whereof required eight Men to carry it out of the Church. And Camden says, the Name of Christ, to whom it was dedicated, was almost laid aside for that of St. Thomas.

7. That all this immense Treasure, with the Lands and Revenues of the whole Monastery, were seized upon by King Henry VIII. at the general Suppression of Religious Houses, except such as are annexed to the Deanry and Chapter, and to the Revenue of the Archbishoprick, which are not very considerable. There is an old Picture of Becket's Martyrdom, and an antient Painting upon the Wall, of the Siege of Jerusalem, in the Habits of our Ancestors.

8. Here are also to be seen the Monuments of Cardinal Courticello, Cardinal Pole, Archbishop Chichley; Archbishop Peckham's, carved in Wood upwards of 450 Years ago; Bishop Wharton, the Duke of Clarence, Archbishop Langton; with many others of less

Note.

The Cathedral is a large and noble Pile of Building: very curious Remnants of painted Glass are still to be seen in the Windows. It is intirely vaulted with Stone, and of a very pretty Model; but much too high for its Breadth, as all Gothic Buildings were. The middle Tower is very beautiful; but the Tower and Spire at

the West End and West Front are mean, and very little of Symmetry was observed by the first Builder, if we suppose the whole was erected at once. The Metropolitan Chair is of grey Marble, standing behind the High Altar. The Cloisters are pretty good, and near them a very large Chapel, called the Sermon-house, wainscoted with Irish Oak. Under it is a large Protestant French Church, given first by Queen Elizabeth to the Walloons, who sled hither from the Persecution of the Duke d'Alva. The Number of these Resugees has been since very much increased by French Protestants obliged to leave their native Country, through the Cruelty of Louis XIV.

The Close where the Houses of the Prebendaries stand, is very spacious and fair, and a great many good Houses are built in it, and some with pretty Gardens. This City sends two Members to Parliament, and has

a Free-school.

Here are many Remains of Roman and Saxon Buildings. This City is strongly walled about, with many Towers at due Intervals, a deep Ditch close underneath, and a great Rampart of Earth within. The Materials

of the Walls are chiefly Flint.

The Castle was built in the Reign of King William I. of the same Form, and the Walls of the same Thickness, with that of Rochester. Dungeon-bill, a very high Mount, seems to have been Part of the old Castle. Opposite to it, without the Walls, is an Hill seeming to have been raised by the Danes, when they besieged the City. The Top of Dungeon-bill is equal to the Top of the Castle, and exhibits a fine Prospect over the City and Country.

Of Augustine's Monastery, two Gates remain next the City, and both very stately. Perhaps one belonged to King Ethelbert's Palace, the other to the Monastery, which doubtless was very splendid; for it covers a great Compass of Ground, and is surrounded with a very high Wall. There were continual Quarrels be-

tween

tween the Monks of Augustine and of those of Thomas

à Becket, both very rich, and very contentious.

Near this Monastery is a vast angular Piece of a Tower (besides half of another) about 30 Feet high, which has been undermined by digging away a Course at Bottom, in order to be thrown down; but happened only to disjoint itself from the Foundation, and lodged itself in the Ground in the present inclining State. Thus, being equally poised, it presents a View of Terror, and forbids a too near Access.

The adjacent Close is full of religious Ruins, and in a Corner of it are the Walls of a Chapel, said to have been a Christian Temple before Augustine's Time, and re-consecrated by him to St. Pancras. Near it is a little Room, said to have been King Ethelbert's Pagan

Chapel.

Eastward of this, and farther out of the City, is St. Martin's Church, said to be Augustine's first See, and the Place whither King Ethelbert's Queen used to repair to divine Service. It is built mostly of Roman Brick, In the Middle is a very large old-sashioned Font, supposed to be that where the King was baptized.

North of the City is a very small Remainder of St. Gregory's Chapel, founded probably by Augustine to the

Honour of that Pope, his Patron.

The City has been much advantaged by the Settlement in it of 2 or 3000 French Protestants, Men, Women, and Children, owing to the abovementioned Expulsion of the French Protestants under Louis XIV.

The Employment of those Resugees was chiesly Broad Silk Weaving, which has suffered several Changes and Alterations; but is still carried on here

to some Account.

But what have added most to the Advantage of Canterbury, are the Hop grounds all round the Place, to the Amount of several thousand Acres, infomuch that Canterbury was, for some time, the greatest Plantation of Hops in the whole Island.

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Whistaple, a Place of little Consequence in former times, is now, from its being a Kind of Fort to Canterbury, become a Town of brisk Trade, and a great deal of Business. Feversham was indeed of Note in early Times, but would probably have shared the Fate of other Towns, and sunk in consequence of the Loss of its samous Abbey, but for its commodious Creek, by which it is not barely sustained, but is in a very thriving Condition, exporting (when they are plenty) large Quantities of Oysters to Holland. The same may be affirmed of Milton, and Queenborough in the Isle of Shepey, and if we take in Rochester, and its Dependencies on the Medway, we may, without Injury to Truth, assert, that there come annually from these Places to London, from 7 to 900 Vessels of all Sizes.

The Shore from Whitstaple, and the East Swals, affords nothing remarkable but Sea-marks, and small Towns on the Coast, till we come to Margate, noted for King William's frequently Landing here in his Returns from Holland, and for shipping a vast Quantity of Corn for London Market, most, if not all of it, the Product of the Isle of Thanet, in which it stands. Here is lately erected a Salt-water Bath, which has performed great Cures in nervous and paralytic Cases, and in Numbness of the Limbs; and seems every Day

to be more and more in Request.

But it may not be unacceptable to transcribe a few Lines from Camden, in Honour to the Industry of the Inhabitants in this Part of the Isle of Thanet, which I recommend to the Admiration (for I doubt it would be too much to say Imitation) of the rest of Britain, both North and South. It is as follows:

Nor must I here omit the Mention of a Thing very much to the Honour of the Inhabitants of

Thanet, of those especially who live near the Roads or

. Harbours of Margate, Ramfgate, and Brodsteer;

' namely, that they are exceeding industrious, and are,

as it were, amphibious Creatures, and get their Living

' fave the Lading.'

both by Sea and Land. They deal in both Elements, are both Fishers and Ploughmen, both Husbandmen and Mariners; and the self-same Hand
that holds the Plough, steers the Ship. According
to the several Seasons, they make Nets, sish for Cod,
Herring, Mackrel, &c. go to Sea themselves, and
export their own Commodities. And those very
Men also dung their Ground, plow, sow, harrow,
reap, inn, being quick and active in both Employments; and so the Course of their Labours runs
round. And when there happen any Shipwrecks, as
there do here now-and-then (for those Shallows and
Shelves so much dreaded by Seamen lie over against
it; namely, the Godwin, the Brakes, the Four-foot,
the Whitdick, &c.), they are extremely industrious to

In this Isle there are great Quantities of Gardenfeeds annually raised, from whence the Seed-shops in London are supplied with their greatest Stock of Seeds.

These are brought by Water to Billingsgate.

At Stanar in the Isle of Thanet, the Rutupiæ of the Romans, is to be seen the Sepulchre of Vortimer, King of the antient Britons; who, having vanquished the Saxons in many Battles, and at last driven them out of the Island, ordered, before his Death, that he should be buried here, on a fond Conceit, that his Corpse would fright them from landing any more upon this Coast; like the great Scipio, who, having subdued the Carthaginians, ordered his Tomb to be turned towards Africa, to fright them from the Coast of Italy. But the poor Britons soon tound the Difference between a King in the Field, and one in the Grave.

On the North-east Point of this Land, is the Promontory, or Head land, which I have often mentioned, called the North-Foreland; which, by a Line drawn due North to the Nase in Essex, about six Miles short of Norwich, makes the Mouth of the River Thames, and the Port of London. As soon as any Vessels pass

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this Foreland from London, they are properly said to be in the open Sea; if to the North, they enter the German Ocean; if to the South, the Channel, as 'tis called, that is, the narrow Seas between England and France; and all the Towns or Harbours, before we come this Length, whether on the Kentish or Essex Shore, are called Members of the Port of London—except those that belong to the Ports of Sandwich and Ipswich.

On the North-Foreland is a new Mark, erected by the Trinity bouse Men at the public Expence; being a round Brick Tower, near 80 Feet high. Here the Sea gains so much upon the Land by continual Winds at South west, that, within the Memory of some of the Inhabitants, above 30 Acres of Land have been lost in

one Place.

From this Point Westward, the first Town of Note is Ramsgate, a small Port: the Inhabitants are fond of having us call it Roman-gate; pretending that the Romans, under Julius Cæsar, made their first Attempt to land here, and that, being driven back by a Storm, he soon returned, and, coming on Shore with a good Body of Troops, beat back the Britons, and sortified his Camp, just at the Entrance of the Creek, where the Town now stands; while others as positively affert, that that great Commander first landed at Deal; as I shall presently observe.

In the 22d Year of his late Majesty King George II. an Act of Parliament passed, appointing Trustees for enlarging and maintaining this Harbour, and a Duty on

Shipping was granted for those Porposes.

The Work was accordingly begun, and for some time carried on with great Vigour, and a very noble Stone Pier was carried out from the Shore on the East-side of the proposed Harbour, to the Distance of 770 Feet. This Pier, so far as finished, is perhaps the most complete Piece of Architecture of the Kind in the World, and well deserves a particular Description.

The Foundation of is it laid in Caiffons, and is 45 Feet broad; the Height, from the Foundation to the upper Part of the Torus, is 38 Feet 6 Inches; 'tis carried up perpendicular to the Top of the Caisson, which is a little above Low-water Mark at a Spring-tide, and then is raifed battering on each Side with rough Stone, fo as to be reduced about ten Feet in Breadth at the fetting on of the Facia. This Work, towards the Sea, is crowned with a Facia and Torus of wrought Stone, which supports a Parapet-wall of the same, rising from the Torus five Feet fix Inches on the Outside, and fix Feet from the Level of the Torus on the Infide. To this Parapet you rife by two Steps on the Infide, the first one, the second two Feet broad; and the Breadth of the Parapet is four Feet; fo that there remains a Walk on the Top of the Pier of 27 Feet broad, besides the two Steps; guarded by the Parapet on the Outfide, but quite open towards the Harbour: On the West-side they have carried out a Wooden Pier, which is but a very indifferent Piece of Work, about 600 Feet from the Shore, and then began to continue it with Stone Work as on the East-fide. But about the Year 1754. Disputes arose among the Trustees, and a Majority of them at a Meeting determined to contract the Harbour, and accordingly begun a contracted Plan on the West-side, which occasioned an Application to Parliament, fetting forth the Absurdity of the Contraction, which was strongly urged by the Advocates for the extended Plan, and no lefs warmly contradicted by their Opponents, before a Committee of the House of Commons. The Result was, an Address to the Crown in April 1755. to appoint proper Officers to furvey the Harbour, and report their Opinion: Accordingly, in September 1755. Sir Piercy Brett, a Gentleman, who, to his eminent Humanity, Courage, and Abilities in Maritime Affairs, has added the Knowlege of a most experienced and accurate Engineer, together with Captain Desmaretz, were appointed to make

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make the faid Survey. And they reported, that, ac. cording to their Judgment, the Wood already made. and every Plan hitherto proposed, seemed liable to very material Objections, as the Depth of Water at the Entrance of the Harbour would be no more than 4 Feet 10 Inches. They therefore proposed to carry out the Work so far as to place the Pier Heads in 8 Feet Water, at 300 Feet Distance from each other, and to have a Bason on the East-side of the Harbour for the Reception of Ships which were there built, and liable to receive Damage by lying aground. They also reported that they thought proper that the Work done on the contrary Plan should be taken up. They observed, that when the Harbour was completed, whatever Form or Dimensions it may have, it may be liable to collect fome Sallage; and concluded with their Opinion, that the executing the Work in the Manner laid down in their Plan, would make a fafe and commodious Harbour for Ships, not exceeding 300 Tons Burden.

In consequence of this Survey, a Bill was brought into Parliament in the Year 1756. for making a Harbour according to the Plan annexed to the faid Report, which the Advocates for the Contraction opposed with no less Zeal and Heat, than they had formerly done the first Plan, and, at a very considerable Expence, pursued it thro' the House of Commons to the the House of Lords, where it was (after long Altercations) finally rejected. Since that nothing further has been done, and the Work remains a British Babel, stopt by the Consusion of Tongues. A standing Monument of the good Taste, Instability, and Folly of our Countrymen, and unluckily fixed in the most conspicuous Point in the whole Universe.

Richborough-castle is a Mile distant from Stanar and Sandwich. At the Foot of it runs the River coming from Canterbury. This River at first discharged itself

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into the Sea by Ebbesflete, North of the Roman City Rutupiæ, now Stanar; till the Sand pouring upon it, obliged the Stream to flide under the Cliff of Richborough-castle, and so by Sandwich. Hither the Romans reforted for the most delicious Oysters. The Castle is a noble Remnant of Roman Antiquity. The Walls on three Sides are pretty intire, and in some Places still about 25 or 30 Feet high, without any Ditch. The Side next the Sea being upon a kind of Cliff, the Top of the Wall is but level with the Ground. Here, in the latter Times of the Empire, the Legio II. Aug. was quartered. And from the Condition of the Walls it must have been destroy'd with great Violence, probably by the Saxons. In the Way to Sandwich, upon an Eminence, is the Remainder of an Amphitheatre made of Turf, probably for the Exercise and Diversion of the Garison. Before Sandwich Gates are two Roman Tumuli, on one of which stands a Windmill. And South of Sandwich, on the Sea-shore, are fix large and broad Celtic Tumuli, at equal Distances. This flat Coast is senced against the Ocean by the Sand-downs. From Sandwich, as far as Hythe, the Coast of France was visible all the Way as we rode. The late Reverend Mr. Lewis published, a few Years ago, a curious History of the Isle of Thanet, to which I shall refer for several Particulars, which deferve the Attention of a Traveller.

Sandwich, one of the Cinque ports (and, as such, returning two Members to Parliament), lies in the Bottom of a Bay, at the Mouth of the River Stour, formerly a Town of great Repute and Trade. It decayed in the Saxons Time, and was utterly ruined by the Danes. Being raised again, it had the Missortune to be reduced to Ashes in King John's Reign; after which it was rebuilt. But in the Reign of Queen Mary, the Mouth of its Harbour was so choaked up by a Ship of great Burden, which sunk in it, and gave Opportunity to the Sands and Beach so to fill it up,

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that it was incurable: the Town of confequence fell

to Decay, and is now a poor Place.

Here are three Churches, three Hospitals, a Customhouse, a Quay, and a Free-school, built out of the Ruins of the Carmelites Monastery, by Sir Roger Man. word, who was Lord Chief Baron, where is an Endowment for fending off every Year two Scholars to Lincoln-College, Oxford. Its Corporation goes by the Name of the Mayor, Jurats, and Commonalty. It has two weekly Markets, and a Fair the 23d of November, which holds three Days.

The Duke of Alva's Persecutions of the Protestants in the Low Countries, drove a Multitude of Walloons over hither, who brought with them the Ingenuity and Application for which they had been always distinguished; these diligent and active People settled a Manufactory of Flannel or Bays, at Sandwich; by these the Silk Looms were set up at Canterbury, where they still subfift; and they also introduced the making of Thread at Maidstone, where it yet remains, and merits more Notice and Encouragement than it has hitherto met with.

Sandwich is noted for Carrots, which are brought to London during the Winter Season; and from hence it is that most of the Markets are supplied with these Roots, which are esteemed the sweetest, as they are also the largest, which are produced in England, or

perhaps in Europe.

From this Place also the Seedsmen in London are furnished with a great Quantity of their Seeds: the Land being light, fandy, and fresh, is very good for producing most Sorts of Seeds; and the Ground being pretty low, the Plants when they fprout do not fo often receive a Blight, as in many other Places.

Not far from hence is Wingham, which gives Title of Baron to Earl Cowper. From hence I went to Deal, called by Cæfar, Dola, he having landed not far from that Place. Near it is the famous Road for Shipping,

fo well known all over the trading World by the Name of the Downs, and where almost all Ships which arrive from foreign Parts for London, or go from London to foreign Parts, and pass the Channel, generally stop; the Homeward-bound, to dispatch Letters, send their Merchants and Owners the good News of their Arrival, and set their Passengers on Shore; and the Outward-bound, to take in fresh Provisions, to receive their last Orders, Letters, and Farewels, from Owners and Friends, &c. Sometimes, when the Wind presents sair, Ships come in here, and pass thro' at once, without coming to an Anchor; for they are not obliged to stop, but for their own Convenience.

The Downs would be a very wild and dangerous Road for Ships, were it not for the South Foreland, an Head of Land forming the East Point of the Kentish Shore; and is called the South, as its Situation respects the North-Foreland; and which breaks the Sea off, which would otherwise come rolling up from the West, to the Flats or Bank of Sands, called the Godwin, which for three Leagues together, and at about a League, or League and half Distance, run parallel with the Shore, and are dry at low Water; so that these two, breaking all the Force of the Sea, on the East, South, and Southwest, make the Downs accounted a very good Road.

And yet on some particular Winds, and especially if they over-blow, the *Downs* proves such a wild Road, that Ships are driven from their Anchors, and often run on Shore, or are forced on the *Godwin* Sands, or into Sandwich-bay, or Ramsgate-pier, in great Distress: this is particularly when the Wind blows hard at Southeast, or at East-by-north, or East-north-east, and some other Points; and terrible Havock has been made in the *Downs* at such times.

But the most unhappy Instance that can be given of any Disaster in the Downs, was in the time of that terrible Tempest, which we call by Way of Distinction, The great Storm, November 27, 1703. Unhappy in

particular, for that there chanced at that time to be a great Part of the Royal Navy come into the Downs,

in their Way to Chatham, to be laid up.

Five of the biggest Ships had the good Fortune to push through the Downs the Day before, finding the Wind blew then very hard, and were come to an Anchor at the Gunsleet; and had they had but one fair Day more, they had been all safe at the Nore, or in the River Medway at Black-stakes.

There remained in the Downs about 12 Sail, when this terrible Tempest began, at which time England may be said to have received the greatest Loss that ever happened to the Royal Navy at one time, either by Weather, by Enemies, or by any Accident whatsoever.

The short Account of it is as follows:

The Northumberland, a Third Rate, carrying 70 Guns, and 353 Men; the Restoration, a Second Rate, carrying 76 Guns, 386 Men; the Stirling-Castle, a Second Rate, carrying 80 Guns, and 400 Men, but had only 349 Men on board; and the Mary, a Third Rate, of 64 Guns, having 273 Men on board; these were all lost, with all their Men, except one Man out of the Mary, and 70 Men out of the Stirling-Castle, who were taken up by Boats from Deal.

All this, besides the Loss of Merchants Ships, which was exceeding great, not here only, but in almost all the Ports in the South and West of England, and also

in Ireland

The Town of Deal is very much improved of late Years; to which the great Resort of Seamen from the

Ships in the Downs has not a little contributed.

The great Conveniency of landing here has also been of infinite Benefit to the Place, so that it is large and populous, divided into the upper and lower Towns, adorned with many seir Buildings, being, in effect, the principal Place upon the Downs; and, on that Account, having both in War and Peace a continual Resort of People. Henry VIII. for its Protection, not only

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a ag H only built a Cassle here, but also two others, one on the North called Sandown Cassle, and another on the South, stiled Walmer Cassle; so that, in all respects, Deal is the most flourishing Place upon this Coast; enjoys a very considerable Portion of Trade, and has, for the present, eclipsed Sandwich, the Port to which it is a Member.

I took a View of Sandown Castle, Deal and Walmer

Castles.

Sandown Castle is composed of sour Lunets of very thick Arched-work of Stone, with many Port-holes for great Guns. In the Middle is a great round Tower, with a Cistern at Top; and underneath, an arched Cavern Bomb-proof. A Foss encompasses the Whole, to which is a Passige over a Draw bridge.

Between Walmer Castle and Deal, was probably the Spot where Casar landed in his first Expedition, because it is the first Place where the Shore can be ascended North of Dover; and exactly answers his assigned Distance of eight Miles. In his second Expedition, with many more Ships, and upon a more persect Knowlege of the Country, he might land at Deal.

Dover stands in a most romantic Situation: it is a great Valley, and the only one about this Coast, where Water is admitted inwards of the Cliff, which is here very high. The Sea formerly came a good way higher up, and made a large Port. Anchors have been found above the Town. The Roman City Dubris was to the South of the River. The Roman Watling-street enters it at Bigin-gate, coming very strait from Canterbury over Barham-down, where it is very perfect. Some of the Walls are left. The Churches are of a very antique Make: that of St. Martin was Collegiate, founded by Wightred King of Kent, and is a venerable Ruin. It was built in Form of a Cross. Of the Priory (now a Farm-house), are large Remains. The Hospital overagainst it is made a Store-house. Here the Knights Hospitallers or Templars lodged, as they came into or VOL. I.

went out of the Kingdom. The Piers which form the Haven, or large Bason, are costly and great Works. Above is a Fort with four Bastions of modern Date. The broad Beach, which lies at the Mouth of this great Valley, and was the Harbour in Cæsar's Time, is very delightful. One long Street here is named Snaregate, from the most tremendous Rocks of Chalk, which

project directly over the Houses.

Dover Castle is very large, and situated upon a Rock, rugged and steep on every Side; but towards the Sea it rises to an extraordinary Height. Though of late Years neglected, it was once so well fortissed, and of such Importance, as to be accounted the Key of England. And William I. when he had an Eye upon the Kingdom, took an Oath of Harold, that he should deliver into his Hands this Castle with the Well, which is 60 Fathoms deep, and said to be the Work of Julius Casar. In short, it was the strongest old Fortisscation in the World; and takes up 30 Acres of Ground.

When one takes a View of the Sea, and the Objects beneath one, from the craggy and lofty Rock on which the Castle stands, and from the Cliss adjacent, it is impossible for such as have read our admirable Shake-speare's Description, in his King Lear, of the Prospect yielded thence, to avoid wishing to recollect it; a Description so sull of Nature and Terror, that the bare Reading of it requires as steady an Head to avoid the Dizziness mentioned in it, as is necessary from a Survey on the Spot. I will transcribe them, as what will afford the best Idea that Words can give, to one who has not been at Dover, of the noble, but dreadful View I have mentioned.

Come on, Sir—here's the Place—Stand still—How fearful And dizzy'tis, to cast one's Eyes so low! The Crows and Choughs, that wing the mid-way Air, Shew scarce so gross as Beetles. Half-way down Hangs one that gathers Sampire;—Dreadful Trade! Methinks S.

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Methinks he scems no bigger than his Head.
The Fishermen, that walk upon the Beach,
Appear like Mice; and you tall anchoring Bark,
Diminish' a to her Cock; her Cock, a Buoy,
Almost too small for Sight. The murmuring Surge,
That on th' unnumber'd idle Pebbles chases,
Cannot be heard so high. I'll look no more,
Lest my Brain turn, and the desicient Sight
Topple down headlong.

The Brass Gun, called Queen Elizabeth's Pocket Pistol, is a great Curiofity, 22 Feet long, and is excellently well wrought, requires 15 Pounds of Powder, and carries a Ball seven Miles. Here are two very old Keys, and a brass Horn, which seem to be the Ensigns of Authority belonging to the Constable of the Castle, or Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. One Part of the Fortifications confifts of a circular Work, in which stands an old Church, said to have been built by Lucius the first Christian King of Britain, out of some of the Roman Ruins; for there are huge Antiquities of Roman Brick laid into the Work; and the Remainder is of Stone, originally cut by the Romans. It is in Form of a Cross, and has a square Tower in the Middle. The Stone Windows are of much later Date than the Building: but the greatest Curiosity is the Pharos, or Roman Watch-tower, standing at the West-end of This Building was made use of as a the Church. Steeple, and had a pleafant Ring of Bells, which Six George Rooke procured to be carried away to Portsmouth. Since which time, the Lead which covered it, has been taken away by Order of the Officers of Ordnance; fo that this rare Piece of Architecture is left exposed to the Sea and Weather. Here was found a Coin of Dioclesian. The Erpinghams Arms are patched up against one Side of the Phares; so that it seems to have been repaired in the Days of King Henry V. when the Lord Erpingham was Warden of Dover Castle.

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Upon another Rock, over against that on which the Caftle is fituated, and almost as high, are the Remains of an old Watch-tower, now vulgarly called Bredenflone, otherwise Devil's drop, from the Strength of the Mortar. Here the new Constable of the Castle is fworn. Under this Place King Henry VIII. built the Mole or Pile called the Pier, that Ships may ride therein with great Safety. But though it was done with vast Labour and Expence, by large Beams fastened in the Sea, bound together with Iron, and great Piles of Wood and Stone heap'd upon all; yet the Fury of the Sea was foon too hard for the Work, and the Timbers beginning to disjoint, Queen Elizabeth expended great Sums upon it. And feveral Acts have passed to repair and restore the same; some of which also include the Restoration and Preservation of the Harbour of Rye, particularly, one passed in the 11th and 12th Years of the Reign of King William III. to be in Force till May 1, 1709. another made in the 2d Year of Queen Anne; another made in the 4th Year of King George I. to be in Force till May 1, 1727. another made in the oth Year of King George I. intitled, An Act for completing the Repairs of the Harbour of Dover, and for refloring the Harbour of Rye to its antient Goodness; which was to be in Force till May 1. 1744. thence, by an Act passed in the 11th of his late Majefty King George II. 21 Years were further granted, which Term will expire May 1, 1765. O. S. all which having been infufficient to answer the intended Purpose, another Act was made in the 29th Year of his faid Majesty, intitled, An Act for enlarging the Terms and Powers, granted and continued by feveral Acts of Parliament, for repairing the Harbour of Dover, in the County of Kent, for 21 Years, after the other Terms were expired.

Dover, the Portus Dubris of the Romans, is one of the Cinque Ports, and returns two Members to Parliament: It was formerly bound to fend 21 Ships for the Wars. Wars. It affords a See to the Suffragan of the Archbishop of Canterbury, as often as any such is appointed. Here most of the Business of these Ports in general is done, and the Courts are kept. The other Cinque Ports are Hastings, Hythe, Romney, and Sandwich. Hastings has two Appendages, namely, Winchelsea and Rye, which, as well as Hastings, are in Sussex, and the others in Kent; they have all great Privileges; their Burgesses are called Barons; who, on the Coronation of our Sovereigns, support the Canopy over their Heads, have a Table at the King's Right Hand, the Canopy for their Fee, and enjoy other Privileges. The Lord Warden of these five Ports is generally one of the sirst Noblemen in the Kingdom.

The Packets for France go off here, in time of Peace, as also those for Oftend, with the Mails for Flanders; and all those Ships which carry Freights from New York to Holland, and from Virginia to Holland, come generally hither, and unlade their Goods, enter them with the Custom house Officers, pay the Duties, then enter them again by Certificate, re-load them, and draw back the Duty by Debenture, and so

they go away for Holland.

As we pass from Dover to the smaller Cinque-Ports of Hythe, Romney, and Rye, we see Folkstone, a little Village now, which the Sea has made great Inroads upon; but which formerly made a greater Figure. A copious Spring went through the Town. Two Pieces of old Wall, feemingly Roman, hang frightfully over the Cliff. Here are some old Guns, one of Iron of a very odd Cast, doubtless as old as the Time of King Henry VIII. Many Roman Coins have also been found. And here a Nunnery was built by Eanswide, Daughter of Eadbald, King of Kent. This Place is now principally of Note for a Multitude of Fishingboats belonging to it, which are one Part of the Year employed in catching Mackrel for the City of London. The Folkstone Men catch them, and the London and I 3 Barking

Barking Mackrel-Smacks, of which I have spoken at large in Essex, come down and buy them, and whisk away to Market under such a Croud of Sails, that one would wonder they could bear them. About Michaelmas, these Folkstone Barks, among others from Shoreham, Brighthelmstone, and Rye, go away to Yarmouth and Leostoff, on the Coast of Norfolk and Suffolk, and catch Herrings for the Merchants there. It hath been observed of some Hills in the Neighbourhood of Folkslone, as the Right Rev. Continuator of Camden takes notice, that they have visibly sunk, and grown lower, within the Memory of Man.

Sandgate Castle, situated in the Bottom of two Hills, on the Sea-shore, hath about 16 Guns to defend the Fishing-crast from the Insults of Privateers, in Time of War: it hath several good Houses about it, and was

built by King Henry VIII.

After we have passed this Castle, we enter upon the Beach. Here are many Springs, which, descending from the higher Ground, fink immediately into this Beach, rendering it a little boggy.

Hythe, one of the Cinque Ports, and which, as such, returns two Members to Parliament, stands on the Edge of the less Ridge; but the Marsh has intercepted

it from the Sea.

Hythe in Saxon fignifies a Port or Station; but at present it hardly answers the Name; for the Sands have so chooked it up, that the Sea is shut out from it to a great Distance. This Town, as also West Hythe, from which the Sea retired above 200 Years ago, owe their Original to Lemanis, or Limne, a Roman Port, of which more anon, now a little Village adjoining, which was formerly a very samous Port, before it was shut up with Sands thrown in by the Sea; which gave Rise to the two Hythes before-mentioned, which, in their Turns, have met with the same Fate. A particular Providence happened at Hythe, April 24, 1739. About 11 o'Clock the Steeple of their Church, in which

which were fix Bells, fell down. About 10 Persons were present when it fell, waiting in the Church Porch for the Keys to go up into the Steeple for a View; but some Delay being made in bringing them, they happily received no other Damage than being greatly frightened. In a Vault under the Church we saw a vast Heap of human Bones, some of an extraordinary Size, said to be gathered up after a bloody Battle sought between the Britons and Danes.

Hythe had antiently four Parishes, though now there is only a Chapel dependent upon the Parish Church of Saltwood. Hence it appears, that the Welfare of all these Places, springing from their Ports, shifted as those did; this of Hythe is now in a manner utterly lost, notwithstanding some chargeable Attempts to restore

it.

About a Mile distant from it is Saltwood Castle, a strong Seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The outer Wall has Towers and Battlements, and a deep Ditch. Within, and on one Side, stands the main Body of the Palace. There are two great and high Towers at the Gate of this, over which are the Arms of Archbishop Courtney, the Founder. This inner Work has a stronger and higher Wall, with a broad embattled Parapet at top. Within is a Court, but the Lodgings are all demolished. The Floor of the ruinous Chapel is strongly vaulted. In the Middle of the Court is a large square Well, seemingly Roman. They say that Anchors have been dug up hereabouts, which makes it likely, that the Romans had here an Iron Forge; and fome will have it, that the Sea came up formerly to it, and ground this Opinion on these Anchors found here.

A little Way farther (at the End of the Stane-street, the Roman Road from Canterbury) is the Port of Lemanis or Limne, mentioned above. At Limne Church, from the Brow of the Hill, may be discerned the ruin-

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ous Roman Walls, fituate almost at the Bottom of the Marshes. A pleasant Brook, which rises from the Rock, West of the Church, runs for some Space on the East Side of the Wall; then passes through it, and so along its lowermost Edge, by the Farm-house at Bottom: here Coins have been found. Once the Seabank broke, and admitted the Ocean into all the adjacent Marshes. The Port is now called Shipway, where the Lord Warden of the Cinque-Ports was formerly sworn, the Courts kept, and all the Pleas relating

thereto, till Dover superseded it.

Romney is a large fine Village, and likewise a Cinque-Port, and, as fuch, returns two Members to Parliament: It is the chief Town of the Marth-grounds which were antiently Part of the Sea, called Romneymarfo; and has Old Romney and Lech for its Members. It is feated on an high Hill of Gravel and Sand, and on the West Side of it had a pretty large Harbour, guarded against most Winds, before the Sea retired from it. In the Year 1287, when the Town was at its Height, it was divided into 12 Wards, had five Parish Churches, a Priory, and an Hospital for the Sick. But it has been dwindling till it came to its present low Condition, ever fince the Reign of Edward I. when an Inundation of the Sea destroyed, Men, Cattle, and Houses, threw down a whole populous Village called Prom-hill, and removed the Rother, which used to empty itself into the Sea at Romney, out of its Channel, stopping up its Mouth, and opening it a nearer Passage into the Sea by Rye; leaving here only a little Bay for Fishingboats.

From Romney marsh the Shore extends itself a great Way into the Sea, and makes that Point of Land called Dengyness. Just by the River Rother stands the little Town of Appledore, which, by Disuse, has lost its Market, and is of no Note now. The Sea formerly

came up to it.

Tenterden,

Tenterden, a Mayor Market-town, lies a little to the N. W. of Appledore, near the Weald. Here is a Grammar Free-school, founded by Mr. Hayman, the Ancestor of Sir Peter. It has a very good and high Steeple, which, they say, was the Cause of the Godwin-Sands, an Estate that belonged to Earl Godwin, and was guarded from the Sea by a Wall; but they were so intent on building the Steeple, that the Wall was neglected, and the Land overslowed, which they could never afterwards recover.

Ashford, also a Mayor-town, stands on the great Road, upon the River Stour. It is a pretty well-built Market-town. The Church is large, and was formerly Collegiate: they hold Pleas for any thing not

exceeding 20 Marks.

Near this Town is an antient Seat of the Thanet Family, called Hothfield, which is large, but fituated in a low marshy Soil, which renders it unhealthy, espe-

cially in the Wealds of Kent.

Newenden deserves to be mentioned for what it once was, having formerly been a fine City, which Camden calls Anderida. It was destroyed by the Saxons, but rebuilt in the Reign of Edward I. and called Newenden, as much as to say, according to Camden's Etymology, a new City in a little Valley. It had then an Harbour much requented; but it is now a most miserable Village, with a sew poor Houses in it, the best an Alehouse; and the Church is ill-built, and out of Repair. It has a very indifferent Bridge over the Rother, a rapid River, which divides at this Place Kent from Sussex, and about nine Miles off empties itself into the Harbour of Rye. Roman Coins have been dug up here.

North-west of Newenden is Cranbrook, a large Market-town, noted for having been one of the first Places where the Cloth-manufacture was set up in England, which is now very much in its Wane here. But here I will conclude my third Letter; and am, Sir,

Yours, &c.

## LETTER IV.

Containing a Description of the County of Sussex, other Parts of KENT, and Part of HANTS. SURREY. &c.

NOW enter the County of Suffex, and shall begin

my Letter with an Account of Rye.

It is fituated in the most Eastern Part of Suffex, upon an Hill, which is encompassed with Rocks, that are inaccessible on the Sea-side. There is nothing now, but fome Remains of its old Walls, to be feen, and the Ditches are almost filled up. Its Trade is in Hops, Wool, Timber, Kettles, Cannon, Chimney-backs, &c. which are cast at the Iron-works at Bakely, about four Miles from Rye, on the North-west, and Breed, about five Miles distant South-west. It is a very great Misfortune, that its Harbour has been fo much damaged by the Sea, and neglected; for it is almost filled up in several Places, where it was formerly the deepest and most convenient. Some considerable Families, who have Lands near, have taken Advantage of this, to extend them farther upon those Sands, which the Sea in Storms has thrown up against them; and by digging Ditches, and making Drains, there are now Fields and Meadows, where antiently was nothing but Water. By this Means, Ships only of a middle Size can come within any convenient Distance of the Town, whereas formerly the largest Vessels, and even whole Fleets together, could anchor just by the Rocks, on which the Town stands: and as this Port lies over-against Dieppe in France, and there is no other Port between Portsmouth and Dover, which can receive Ships of Burden, not only the Danger of the Sea, but, in Time

of War, of the Enemy, were escaped by the Conveniency of this Harbour. But it being by the Means I have mentioned, and by the Inning of the Channel and waste Lands (which prevented the Flux and Reslux of the Tide), in Danger of being utterly lost, an Act of Parliament passed in 1721. which enacts, That no new Walls, Banks, Dams, or Stops, shall thereaster be erected on either Side of the Water, that might stop or alter the Flux or Reslux of the Sea, between the Mouth of the Harbour, bounded by the Camber and Castle-Points, and New Shutt near Craven Sluice.

In 1723. another Act passed for completing the Repairs of the Harbour of Dover, and for restoring the Harbour of Rye to its antient Goodness, which still continued to be choaked up, and almost ruined, by the Shifting of the Beach without, and settling of the Sullage within, and stopping the Flux of the Tide, which this Act proposed should have its free Course through the Scotch stat and Craven Sluices, or into such other Cut or Channel as should be found most proper and expe-

dient.

And in 1724. another Act passed for making the last Act more essectual, so far as related to the Harbour of Rye; in which a Power was given to change the Design of making a Passage by the above-named Sluices, and to open a new Cut from the Winchelsea Channel, right out to the Sea. And they actually began, in pursuance of this Act, to cut a broad and deep Canal, which was to be carried to the Sea on the Side of Winchelsea, for the Use of the two Boroughs. But still these Provisions being found insufficient, another Act passed in 1737 8 for continuing the Term and Powers granted by the former Acts, for repairing the Harbour of Dover, and for restoring that of Rye to its antient Goodness, to which I must refer the Reader, and to what I have said in my last, treating of Dover, p. 172.

Rye furnished the Fleet of Edward III. with nine Ships, and 156 Men. There might still, tho' perhaps

it might prove expensive, be a large and commodious Haven made here, and there is no Place would be more fit for a Royal Yard, in which Ships might be built and equipped with great Conveniency. Timber and Iron would be at hand; and if Hemp and Flax were raised in the adjacent Country, Ropes and Sailcloth might be produced with the like Eafe. This would not only be beneficial to the Counties of Suffex and Kent, but also to the Nation in general, as great Savings might arise from hence, in the Article of Shipbuilding; a fafe and good Port be obtained, where it is much wanted, and all those Advantages be retrieved, which our Ancestors possessed, when this Port and that of Winchelsea were in a flourishing Condition, and which were of great Importance to them, and, no Doubt, would be fo to us, whenever this Nation is at War with France.

The Houses of Rye are well-enough built, and of Brick, tho' generally old-fashion'd; but there are some very neat ones of a modern Taste. There is a small Settlement of French Refugees in this Town, mostly Fishermen; who have a Minister of their own. Archbishop Wake was intrusted by the King with Money for the Relief of Refugees, and it is probable that the Minister here might be paid out of this Fund, but scarcely by the Archbishop of Canterbury, as such. The Church is handsome and large; but there are so many Diffenters in the Town, and fo few of the Establish'd Church, that they have wall'd off, and converted the Western Part of it into a Magazine for Planks. But there are two well-built Meeting-houses, one for the Presbyterians, the other for the Quakers. Another Church, which belonged to a Monastery now demolished, is also turned into a kind of Storehouse for Planks, Hops, and other Merchandize. At the North-east of Rye are the Remains of an old Fort, which commands the Town and Harbour, and serves for the Town-gaol.

The Corporation, which is only by Prescription, consists of a Mayor, 12 Jurats, and the Freemen. Here is a free Grammar-school, which was erected in 1644. by Mr. Peacock, one of the Jurats, who also endowed it with 32 l. a Year, for teaching all the Children of the Town.

His Majesty King George I. on his Return from Hanover, January 3. 1725-6. was obliged to put in here, after a very dangerous and tempestuous Passage, the Fleet, as was said, being unable to make Dover, and it was then experienced, what a Benefit it would have been to have had this only considerable Haven, as it formerly was, between Portsmouth and Dover, restored to its pristing flourishing State; for his Majesty was under great Difficulties to land there, and the larger Ships were unable to sollow him.

His late Majesty King George II. was still in greater Danger, in making for this Port, than his Royal Father, on his Return likewise from his German Dominions, from a violent Storm, which happened December 20.

1736.

This Town was, as I have said, one of the Appendages, as Winchelsea was the other, to Hastings, as a Cinque-Port, and enjoyed the same Privileges; and each of the three returns two Members of Parliament.

Old Winchelsea stood upon the Sea-shore, about two or three Miles from the Place where the New stands. It had formerly a large and spacious Harbour, was a Place of great Trade, and had no less than 18 Churches in it. But it was intirely destroyed by the Sea, and that small Part which is not bury'd in the Sands, is now Marsh and Meadow-land. To the S. W. of Rye, and the N. E. of New Winchelsea, is still to be seen, in the Midst of a large Plain, an old Tower, which probably stood by the Sea.

New Winchelsea is said to have been built by King Edward I. partly on an Hill about two Miles from the

Old, and the like Diffance from Rye, and partly in a little Valley, where it had an Harbour; but Anno 1250. the latter Part of this met with the same Fate as the It never was comparable to the old Town. having but three Parish Churches when it most flourished; and now there only remains the Chancel of one. which is more than large enough for the Inhabitants. But yet the Town was every-where accommodated with fine stone arch'd Vaults, for stowing of Merchandize. and was laid out with admirable Regularity, the Streets being divided into 32 Quarters. Some of the Stonework of the three Gates are still to be feen. The Sea is now above a Mile distant from it, the Harbour being choaked up with Sands; and Grafs grows, not only where the Harbour was, but even in the Streets; and indeed there are only a few Houses remaining in the upper Part of the Town. Among the Ruins of the Walls to the S. E. are the Remains of a Castle, as some fay; or of a Monastery, as others will have it.

Winchelsea furnished the Fleet of Edward III. with 21 Ships, and 596 Seamen. Henry VIII. for the Protection of it, built Camber Castle, at the Expence of 23000l. which, even in the Purse of the Crown, was no incon-

fiderable Sum in those Days.

Hastings is the chief of the five Cinque-Ports, and, with its two Members above, was obliged to furnish the King with 20 Ships for any Naval Expedition, in Recompence for the ample Immunities it enjoyed, as one of the five Ports. It is about eight Miles from Winchelsea. It consists of two great Streets, with a Parish-Church in each, and several good Houses; but its Harbour, formerly so famous, is now a poor Road for small Vessels, having been ruined by the Storms, which from time to time have been so fatal to its neighbouring Ports of Rye and Winchelsea. We saw here the Ruins of an antient Castle; and, about three Miles off, Bull-hide Haven, where William the Norman is said

faid to have landed in his Invasion of England; tho' some say it was at Hastings, and others at Pevensey, an Harbour more Westward, which has likewise been destroyed by the Sea. But, be that as it will, it was at Hastings that he mustered his Army, after he had burnt his Ships, being determined to conquer or perish in the Attempt; or rather, as another Author has observed, that he might not be obliged to divide his Army, which must have been the Case, if he had preserved his Ships; and probably, while he made an Advance into the Country, at the Head of Part of his Army, Harold might have stepped in between, and cut off those who were lest to guard the Ships, and then with more Ease have attacked, and perhaps beat, that Part commanded by the Norman himself.

The decifive Battle which he fought Anno 1066. with King Harold, was upon a Plain called Heath-field, about feven Miles from Hostings, for an Account of which I shall refer to the Historians. In the Place where Harold's Body was found, the Norman instituted an Abbey of Benedictine Monks, dedicating it to St. Martin; and from the Fight aforesaid, it is called Battle Abbey; and soon drew to it, by a Fair held every Sunday and Holiday, such a Resort, that it became an handsome Town. It still retains the Name of Battle, and some Remains of the Abbey are yet to be seen, and make Part of the House of the Lord Viscount Montacute, a Roman-catholic Peer; of which

more in another Place.

A little beyond Hostings to Bourn, we rode upon the Sands in a strait Line for 18 Miles, all upon the Coast of Sussex, passing by Pemsey or Pevensey Haven aforementioned, and the Mouth of the River, which comes from Battle, without so much as knowing that there was a River, the Tide being out, and all the Water sinking away in the Sands. This Town of Battle is remarkable for little now, but making Gunpowder, and the best perhaps in Europe. Near Battle they shew

shew us an Hill with a Beacon upon it, now called Beacon bill, but was formerly called Standard bill; where the Norman set up his great Standard of Defiance, the Day before the decisive Battle with Harold

and the English.

From the Beginning of Romney-marsh, that is to say, at Sandgate or Sandsoot Castle, near Hythe, to this Place, the Country is a rich fertile Soil, sull of feeding Grounds; and an incredible Number of large Sheep are sed every Year upon them, and sent up to London Market. These Romney-marsh Sheep are counted rather larger than the Leicestershire and Lincolnshire Sheep, of which so much is said elsewhere

Besides the vast Flocks of Sheep, as above, abundance of large Bullocks are sed in this Part of the Country; and especially those they call Stall'd or House-ed Oxen, from their being kept within the Farmers Sheds or Yards all the latter Season, where they are sed for the Winter-market, and generally deemed

the largest Beef in England.

In Romney-marsh, as in other Parts of England, are found great Timber trees, lying at Length under Ground, as black as Ebony, and fit for Use, when

dried in the Sun.

From hence it was that, turning North, and traverfing the deep, dirty, but rich Part of these two Counties, my Curiosity led me to see the great Founderies, or Iron-works, which are in this County, and where they are carried on at such a prodigious Expence of Wood, that even in a Country almost all over-run with Timber, they begin to complain of the great Consumption of it by those Furnaces, and the Apprehension of leaving the next Age to want Timber for building their Navies.

After I had been fatigued in passing this deep and heavy Part of the Country, I thought it would not be foreign to my Design, if I resreshed myself with a View

of Tunbridge-wells, which were not then above 12

Miles out of my Way.

When I came to the Wells, which were about four Miles nearer to me than the Town, supposing me then at Battle, to the Southward of them, I found a great deal of good Company there; and particularly made an Observation, that those People who have nothing to do any-where else, are the busiest People at Tunbridge.

After the Appearance is over at the Wells (where the Ladies are all in *Defhabille*), and at the Chapel, the Company go home; and, as if it was another Species of People, or a Collection from another Place, you are furprifed to fee the Walks covered with Ladies completely dreffed, and gay to Profusion; where rich Cloaths, Jewels, and Beauty, dazle the Eyes from one

End of the Range to the other.

The Air here is excellent, and the Provisions of all Sorts very reasonable: particularly they are supplied with excellent Fish, of almost all Sorts, from Rye, and other Towns on the Sea-coast; and I saw a Turbut of near 20 Pounds Weight sold there for three Shillings. In the Mackrel Season, they have them here from Hastings, within three Hours of their being taken out of the Sea; and the Difference which that makes in their Goodness, I need not mention.

They have likewise here abundance of Wild-sowl of the best Sorts; such as Pheasants, Partridges, Woodcocks, Snipes, Quails, &c. particularly they have from the South-downs the Bird called a Wheat-ear, or which I think I may call the English Ortolan, the most delicious Taste for one Mouthful (for it is hardly more) that can be imagined: but these are very dear at Tunbridge; they are much cheaper at Seaford, Lewes, and

that Side of the Country.

Tunbridge is fituated upon the little River Tunn which runs into the Medway hard by. On the Southern Bank of the River are to be seen the Ruins of an old Castle, built by a natural Son of Richard I. Duke

of Normandy, who, as Mr. Camden tells us, exchanged his Lordship of Bryany in that Duchy for Tunbridge. The Church is a modern Building; the Houses in the Town are mostly ill built, and the Streets forrily paved.

The Wells are about four Miles from the Town, and the Rocks a few Miles from them, and worth a Traveller's Curiofity, as they are several prodigious Heaps of firm Stone Rocks, though some Miles distant from

the Sea.

The Buildings at the Wells have much the Advantage of those in Tunbridge, and may be said to constistute a large and populous Town themselves. There is a Church, or rather a Chapel of Ease, which is very This new Town, as I may call it, stands in a Bottom between two Hills, one of which is called Mount Sion, and the other Mount Ephraim, which are generally covered with good Houses, fine Gardens, and Fruit-trees. The Wells might be more properly called Spelbur ft Wells; for the Water rifes in a Parish of that Name. The Well which contains them is paved, and furrounded with a low Wall, with Stairs to go down. Near the Well is a long Walk, paved, and covered over, wherein to walk in bad Weather, and while they are taking the Waters, and where likewife the Band of Musick have Place. There are also Rooms to drink Chocolate, or Coffee, and to play at Cards, &c. likewise an Hall to dance in. Not far off the Well is a Market well stored with Provisions of all Sorts.

A very eminent Physician is of Opinion, that the Waters of Bath, Tunbridge, Cheltenham (or Scarborough, which partake of the same Qualities), and Bristol, make the general Kinds of most of the various Mineral Waters on the Globe; and that he therefore who understands these, cannot be much at a Loss to determine the Virtues and Essicacy of any new Kind. And as this learned Gentlemen has favoured me with his Opinion

Opinion of these several Waters, I shall communicate the same in their respective Places.

And, first, this is what he fays of the Nature, Effi-

cacy, and Qualities, of thele of Tunbridge.

' Tunbridge Waters (fays he) are nothing but an Impregnation of Rain, or compressed Cloud-waters, in some of the Eminences of the neighbouring Country. And indeed all Hills, and conspicuous Elevations, are mere hollow Nests of some Minerals. Iron and Sulphur are the most common and universal Mie nerals; and almost all Kinds of Stone fit for making Fences or Edifices have in their Composition one or both of them. All the Varieties of hard, black, dark, or greyish Stones, abound with ferrugineous Particles; and Iron is so necessary, especially in Countries between the Tropics and the Poles, for Husbandry, that there is scarce a Mile square within the Compass, where it may not be found with its impregnated Waters. This is demonstrable by the Action of the Loadflone on most Minerals, the Magnet itself seeming to be scarce any thing but a purer Clod of Iron: and pure polished Iron, we know, with very simple Mae nagement, becomes highly magnetic. Hence we account for the Frequency of chalybeat Mineral Waters, of some Degree of Strength or other, so readily to be found between the Poles and Tropics. And this is a bountiful Provision of Nature to those colder Climates, where animal Food, and fermented Liquors are so necessary for the Support, Comfort, and greater Proportion of animal Force required in them, for their Defence from the Swarming of ravenous Animals, and for hunting animal Food, where the Vegetable is neither so proper, nutritive, onor abounding, as in these kindlier Climates between the Tropics towards each Side of the Equator. e neral chalybeat Waters brace the Solids, which anie mal Food, and fermented Liquors, in any Plenty, are apt to relax; and wind up the Springs of animal

Motion, to keep the Blood fluid, which the just-" mentioned Indulgences are disposed to thicken. Soft Stone, Marle, alkalious Clay, and all Kinds of bituminous Earths, have a larger Quantity of Sulphur in them; for Sulphur, Oil, and Bitumen, always leave · Earth brittle, spongy, and alkalious (Alkalies being only an harder earthy Sponge); and when the watry Impregnations meet, they naturally produce by Fermentation fome Degree of Heat in the Mixture. There is in Nature (as this learned Gentlemen thought) but one Kind of Salt, which is Nitre; and the Variety arises from a Mixture of Sulphur, Earth, or Iron, in different Proportions combined in their Composition. Nitre however, and Sea-salt, have their principal Efficacy from the predominant Principle in their Texture: and thus Tunbridge Waters are only a finer Solution of blue Vitriol, or natural Salt of Steel, or Rain-waters, inimitable by Art in fuch falutary Effects as Nature always produces. · For Example: Though Art may imitate, in precious Stones, all the Varieties of Colours, Reflexions, Refractions, and Emissions of Light; yet there is always some one peculiar Property, as of Hardness, · Weight, or Water, which discovers the Sophistication. In like manner, all the Wines on the Globe may be so imitated, that neither Eye, nor Palate, nor the Perception of their Effects on animal Bodies, can discover the Fiction; and this without one Drop of • the Juice of the Grape, from the faccharine Quality only of almost all Fruits, Seeds, or Herbs : yet, by analysing them in some proper Menstruum, the Cheat may be found out. Thus we may imitate all the feveral Mineral Waters on the Earth, and pretty · nearly conciliate all their general or groffer falutary · Virtues on diseased Animals: yet there is an unaccountable Something in the Tafte, Lightness on the Stomach, Chearfulness and Alacrity they give, which e all our Skill can never bestow. The Principle of · Individuation,

The

Individuation, the Size of their last and least Parti-

cles, the Proportion of the feveral Parts of the Com-

oposition to the watry Menstruum, and the due Time

of their Impregnation, are, and ever will be, unknown to us; as will confequently the Degree re-

quired to wind up, strengthen, and contract, the re-

· laxed Solids of diseased human Bodies, to such an

Height, that they may be enabled to grind, dissolve, and thin, the concreted Juices, as these active, strong,

and invigorating Waters of Tunbridge usually do: for

in all robust Constitutions but partially depraved, in

the cold chronical Distempers of such Habits, in ner-

vous Disorders, and low Spirits, in weak Digestions,

and gross Habits, they are extremely successful, espe-

cially in the hotter Seasons of the Year.' Thus far

this learned Gentleman.

During the time I was at Tunbridge formerly, I made an Excursion to Knowl-house, about seven Miles from Tunbridge, and one from Sevenoak, belonging to the Duke of Dorset: it is situated in the Middle of a Park, and at that time was an antient Stone Fabrick; but had nothing more remarkable in it, than some excellent Pictures. The Park is beautisted with many large old Beech Trees, and the Turf is perhaps as fine as any in the World.

A few Miles North-west of Tunbridge lies Sevencak, so called from seven large Oaks that grew near the Place. It is a Market-town, governed by a Warden, and Assistants; but is noted for nothing more than being a great Thoroughsare Town. It has a good Hospital for maintaining and teaching poor Children, erected by Sir William Sevencak, Lord Mayor of London, who was a Foundling, and took his Name from

the Town.

I left Tunbridge, and re-entered Suffex at Lewes, thro' the deepest, dirtiest, but in many respects the richest and most profitable Country in all that Part of England.

The Timber I saw here was prodigious, as well for Size as Plenty; and seemed in some Places suffered to grow, only because it was so far off any Navigation, that it was not worth carrying away. In dry Summers indeed, a great deal is carried to Maidstone, and other Places on the Medway; and sometimes I have seen one Tree on a Carriage, which they call there a Tug, drawn by 22 Oxen; and even then it is carried so little a way (being thrown down, and left for other Tugs to take up, and carry on), that sometimes it is two or three Years before it gets to Chatham; for if once the Rains begin, it stirs no more that Year; and sometimes a whole Summer is not dry enough to make the Roads passable.

And here I shall observe, That in the Year 1739-40. an Act passed, intitled, An Act to revive, explain, and amend, an Act made in the 16th and 17th Years of the Reign of his late Majesty King Charles II. intituled, An Act for making the River of Medway navigable, in the

Counties of Kent and Suffex.

The Preamble to this Act will fet this Matter in a proper Light: and it is to this Effect: That the abovementioned Act of Parliament of the 16th and 17th of Charles II. was never yet carried into Execution; although the making the faid River navigable was likely to be of great Utility to the Public, by reason of large Quantities of Timber growing on the Wealds of Kent and Sussex, which is allowed to be the best in the Kingdom, for the Use of the Royal Navy; and which now, through the Badness of the Roads in those Parts, cannot be conveyed to any Market but at a large Expence:

That therefore the present Undertakers being defirous to begin, carry on, and complete, the Navigation of such Part of the antient River Medway, and Streams falling into it, as run from Forest-row in Sussex, to Maidstone in Kent, this Act incorporates them for that PurPurpose, by the Name of The Company of Proprietors of

the Navigation of the River Medway.

We must refer to the Act itself for farther Particulars; and shall only observe, That if this Work can be completed, it will be of inconceivable Advantage to the Public; not only for the excellent Timber which it will be a Means of conveying to proper Markets, but for the easy and speedy Carriage of Iron, Ordnance, Balls, and other Materials of War, forged in or near the said River, which at some times of the Year cannot be brought through the Wealds of the two Counties; and for the Carriage of Wood, Corn, Grain, Hay, Hops, Wool, Leather, and all manner of Provisions, as also of Coals, Lime, Stone Wares, and all other Necessaries and Commodities, to the great Improve-

ment of Trade and Commerce.

Lewes is a pleasant Town, large, well-built, agreeably fituated in the Middle of an open Champain Country, and on the Edge of the South-downs, the most delightful of their Kind in the Nation; it lies on the Bank of a little wholesome fresh River, within 12 Miles of the Sea, and was formerly encompassed with a Wall; but there are few Remains of it now to be feen. But what contributes to the Advantage of this Town is, that both it, and the Country adjacent, are full of the Seats of Gentlemen of good Families and Fortune; of which the Pelhams must be named with the first, whose Chief is his Grace the Duke of Newcastle. also the antient Families of Gage, Shelly, &c. formerly Roman-catholics, but now Protestants, with many others. Lewes returns two Members to Parliament. It has five Churches in it. Near it is an old demolish. ed Castle, in the Neighbourhood of which was fought that bloody Battle between King Henry III. and his Barons; the Event of which constrained the King to accept of hard Conditions of Peace, and to give his Son as an Hostage for Performance.

Seaford,

Seaford, in the Neighbourhood of Lewes, enjoys the Privilege of fending two Gentlemen to Parliament, as

one of the Members of the Cinque-Ports.

I ought not to forget, that Newhaven, also in this Neighbourhood, was formerly noted for its safe and good Harbour for Ships of considerable Burden; but, for want of a Provision for maintaining the Timber Piers, which it had for Time immemorial, it was quite neglected, the Harbour choaked up with Sand and Beach, and the Piers were rotten and decayed. To remedy these Evils, an Act passed, Anno 1731. for repairing, and keeping in Repair, the said Piers and Harbour; and this is so far brought to Effect, that it became very thriving both in Commerce and Shipbuilding; small Vessels of different Sizes are built here, and in Proportion as the Port improves, its Trade will increase.

From Lewes, following still the Range of the South-downs, West, we ride in View of the Sea, and on a fine Carpet Ground, for about 12 Miles, to Brighthelmstone, a poor Fishing-town, old-built, and on the very Shore of the Sea. Hence again (as I mentioned at Folkstone and Dover), the Fishermen, having large Barks, go away to Yarmouth, on the Coast of Norfolk, to the Fishing-fair there, and hire themselves out for the Seamen to catch Herrings for the Merchants; and they tell us, that these make a very good Business of it.

The Sea is very unkind to Brighthelmstone, having, by its continual Encroachments, so gained upon the Town, that in a little time the Inhabitants may reasonably expect it will eat away the whole Place, above 100 Houses having been devoured by the Water in a

few Years past.

From hence, still keeping the Coast on the Lest, we come to Shoreham, a Town chiefly inhabited by Ship-carpenters, Ship-chandlers, and all the several Trades depending upon the Building and Fitting up of Ships, which is their chief Business. It stands at the Mouth

of the Ader. Vessels of a large Size, some for the Use of the Navy, but most for the Merchants Service are here constructed. The Demand of late for these are so great, and the People so industrious, that it is afferted, there is sometimes not so much as a single Person who receives Alms; a Circumstance worthy not only of Praise, but of Imitation. Shoreham is justly noted for Sailors, and for neat and stout Sea-boats.

The Builders of Ships seem to have settled here chiefly because of the Quantity and Cheapness of Timber in the Country behind them; being the same wooded Country I mentioned above, which still continues through this County and the next. The River this Town stands upon, though not navigable for large Vessels, yet serves to bring down this large Timber in Floats from Bramber, Steyning, and the Country ad-

jacent.

The Navigation through the prefent Entrance into ' the Harbour of New Shoreham, being become dangerous, an Act passed in the Year 1760. for erecting Piers. and other Works, for the Security and Improvement of it, and for keeping the fame in Repair; and to empower Commissioners named in it, or any Eleven of them, at any time after the first Day of June, in the faid Year 1760. to make a new Cut through the Seabeach, opposite to the Village, called King ston-by-Sea. about a Mile to the Eastward of the Town, and to erect a Pier or Piers, and to do fuch other Works as shall be necessary, in order to make and maintain a new and more commodious Entrance into the faid Harbour; and it is not doubted, that the same will be made of great Utility to the Trade and Navigation of the Kingdom in general.

Here, in the Compass of about six Miles, are three Borough-towns, which send Members to Parliament,

viz. Shoreham, Bramber, and Steyning.

Shoreham and Steyning are pretty little Market-towns; but Bramber, after I have mentioned the Ruins of an Vol. I.

old Castle, hardly deserves the Name of a Town, having not above 20 Families in it, and of them but sew above asking Alms, as you ride by. The chief House in the Town, when I was there, was a Publick-house, the Landlord whereof boasted, that upon an Election, just then over, he had made 300 l. of one Pipe of Canary.

The Castle of Bramber, however, appears to have been a Place of Strength. There is, besides Part of the outward Wall, one Side of a Tower of great Height now remaining; and it is surprising it does not tumble down with the first high Wind. It is most beautifully covered with Ivy, and is a fine Object viewed at

a Distance from the Hills.

This is not the only Town in this County, where the Elections have been scandalously mercenary, insomuch that it has been said, there was, in one King's Reign, more Money spent at Elections than all the Lands in the Parishes were worth, at 20 Years Purchase.

I shall name in particular but one more, and that is Winchelsea; which is rather the Skeleton of an antient City, than a real Town, where the old Gates stand near three Miles from one another over the Fields, and the very Ruins are so buried, that they have made good Corn Fields of the Streets, and the Plough goes over the Foundations, nay, over the first Floors of the Houses, and where nothing of a Town seems to remain: yet, at one Election for Members, the Struggle was such, between Sir John Banks, and Colonel Draper, a neighbouring Gentleman, that I was assured the latter spent 11,000 l. and lost it too. What the other spent, who opposed him, may be guessed at, seeing he who spent most was almost sure to carry his Election.

Near Steyning, the famous Baronet of the Name of Fagg had an antient Seat. And thence, passing by the Seat of Sir John Shelley, prettily situated in the Middle of a Grove, we come to Arundel, a decayed Town

also. It stands near the Mouth of the River Arun, which heretofore had a good Harbour, called Arundel Port, or the Harbour of Little Hampton, capable of receiving Ships and Vessels of a considerable Burden; but, a Beach being thrown up by the Sea, it was quite choaked up, and the Navigation of the Arun obstructed, so that the Harbour was rendered in a manner useless. But in the Year 1733. an Act passed for erecting Piers in, and for repairing, and keeping in Repair, the Harbour there, by cutting a Channel through the Beach and old Piers, erecting Locks, &c.

One great Advantage to the Country, from this River, is the shipping off great Quantities of large Timber here; which is carried up the Thames to Woolwich and Deptford, and up the Medway to Chatham; as also Westward to Portsmouth, and even to Plymouth, and indeed to all the King's Yards, where the Business of the Navy is carried on. The Timber shipped off here, is esteemed the best and largest that is brought by Sea from any Part of England; also great Quantities of Knee-timber are had here, the largest of which is valuable in its kind above the strait Timber.

This River, and the old, decayed, once famous Castle at Arundel, which has the Privilege to give to its Possessor the Title of an Earl and Peer of the Realm without Creation, and which belongs to the noble Family of Howard, Earls of Arundel, and Dukes of Norfolk, is all that is remarkable here; except it be, that in the Church are sour old and stately Monuments of the Earls of Arundel; and that in this River are caught the best and largest Mullets in England; a Fish very good in itself, and much valued by the Gentry round, and often sent up to London. It returns two Members to Parliament.

From hence to the City of Chichester are 12 of the most pleasant and delightful Miles in England, whether we go by the Hill, or Downs, or by the Plain, or inclosed Country.

K 2

To the North of Arundel, and at the Bottom of the Hills, and consequently in the Weald, is the Town of Petworth, a large, handsome Country Market-town, and very populous; and as it stands upon an Ascent, and is dry and healthy, it is full of Gentlemens Families, and good well-built Houses, both in the Town and Neighbourhood; but the Beauty of Petworth is the antient Seat of the old Family of Piercy, Earls of Northumberland, now extinct; whose Daughter, the sole Heiress of all his vast Estates, married Charles Seymour, late Duke of Somerset; and among other noble Seats brought his Grace this of Perworth. 'Tis now the Seat of the Earl of Egremont, descended from a Daughter of his Grace.

The Duke pulled down the antient House, and on the same Spot built from the Ground one of the best-

modelled Houses then in Britain.

The Apartments are very noble, well contrived, and richly furnished; but the Avenues to the Front want Space: In the Armory in this House, they shew, besides several other Curiosities, a Sword, which is said to be the Sword of Hotspur; and the Date upon the Blade seems to countenance the Opinion. It is not so unweildy as other antient Swords usually are.

From Petworth West, the Country is a little less woody than the Weald; and a great many fine Seats begin to shew their Heads above the Trees; as the Duke of Richmond's Seat at Godwood, near Chichester; the Seats of the late Earls of Tankerville, Scarborough,

&c.

But the Seat of Lord Viscount Montacute, called Cowdrey, near Midhurst, the Midæ of the Romans, which sends two Members to Parliament, deserves a particular Mention. It is situated in a Valley, encompassed with Lawns, Hills, and Woods, thrown into a Park, the River running underneath, which renders the Place very agreeable in Summer, but makes it dampish in Winter. The House is square, and at each Corner

is a Gothic Tower, which have a very good Effect, when viewed from the lifting Grounds. The Hall is cieled with Irif Oak, after the antient manner. The Walls are painted with Architecture by Roberti, the Statues by Goupé, the Stair-case by Pelegrini. large Parlour, or Room at the Hall, is of Holbein's Painting; where that great Artift has described the Exploits of King Henry VIII. before Boulogne, Calais, his Landing at Portsmouth, his magnificent Entry into London, &c. In the other Rooms are many excellent Pictures of the Ancestors of the Family, and other History-paintings of Holbein, relating to their Actions in War. The Rooms are stately and well-furnished, adorned with many Pictures. There is a long Gallery with the 12 Apossles, as big as Life; another very neat one, wainscoted with Norway Oak, where are many antient Whole-length Pictures of the Family, in their proper Habits. There are four History pieces, two Copies of Raphael's Marriage of Cupid and Psyche, and feveral old religious and military Paintings from Battleabbey.

The Park is nable, having a great Variety of Grounds in it, and is well wooded with Pines, Firs, and other Evergreen-trees, which are grown to a large Size; and here are some of the largest Chesnut-trees perhaps in England. The Valleys which run through the Park, are well supplied with Water, which keeps

the Grass in a constant Verdure.

Chichester is a neat and pretty large City, walled round. The River Lavant runs under Part of the Walls. Two principal Streets cross it at right Angles upon the cardinal Points, where stands a curious Cross, and Market-house upon Pillars, erected by Bishop Read. This Cross was repaired and beautissed Anno 1746. by the late Duke of Richmond: so that it is now the finest Cross in England, Coventry excepted. The Church takes up one of these Quadrants. It is remarkable for two Side Ailes on both Sides, and the Richards.

Pictures of all the Kings and Queens of England fince Cissa (the South-Saxon Monarch, who made this his Royal Seat; and repaired the antient Roman Castle or Walls, leaving his Name to the Place), on the Southern Wall, as, on the opposite Wall, all the Bishops.

The Monuments of Bishop Carleton and Bishop King are in this Church, whose Effigies are curiously

done in Marble.

In the Year 1723. in digging a Foundation at Chichefter, was found, pretty deep in the Ground, a large Stone, fix Feet long and three broad, with a Roman Inscription on it. In digging up the Stone, a few of the Letters were erased; but they were easily supplied.

Neptuno et Minervæ templum, pro salute domus divinæ ex auctoritate Tiberii Claudii, Cogidubni regis, legati Augusti in Britannia, collegium sabrorum, et qui in eo a sacris, vel honorati sunt de suo dedicaverunt; donante aream Pudente Pudentini silio.

That is,

This Temple was dedicated to Neptune and Minerva, for the Safety of the Imperial Family, by the Authority of Tiberius Claudius. It was erected by the College of Artificers of King Cogidubnus, Augustus's Lieutenant in Britain, and by those who officiated as Priests, or were honoured, in it, at their own Expence; the Ground being given by Pudens the Son of Pudentinus.

This Stone was presented to the late Duke of Richmond, who placed it in a Temple on a Mount in his Garden at Godwood, between the Statues of Neptune and Minerva.

This City returns two Members to Parliament. It is not a Place of much Trade, nor is it very populous; but within these few Years they are fallen into a new

way of managing the Corn-trade here, which turns very well to Account; for whereas the Farmers, generally speaking, used to carry all their Wheat to Farnham Market, which is very near 40 Miles, by Land-carriage, and from some Parts of the Country more than that, some money'd Men of Chichester, Emsworth, and other Places adjacent, joined their Stocks together, and built large Granaries near the Crook, where the Vessels come up; and here they buy and lay up all the Corn, which the Country on that Side can spare; and, having good Mills in the Neighbourhood, they grind and dress it, and send it to London in the Meal by long Sea.

This is a great lessening to Farnham Market; but if the Market at London is supplied, the coming by Sea from Chichester is every whit as much a public Good, as the encouraging of Farnham Market, which was once, of itself, the greatest Corn-market in England; Hempstead in Hertfordshire, and London, excepted. This carrying of Meal by Sea is now practised from several other Places on this Coast, even as far as

Southampton, 14 15 was add to trothe all

Chichester, besides the Cathedral, has five small Churches. About three Miles from t is the House of his Grace the Duke of Richmond, called Godwood. It was the antient Seat of the Earls of Northumberland, and in a very ruinous Condition; but the late Duke of Richmond built some Offices, which were to have corresponded with a Mansion-house designed by Colin Campbell, and published by him in his Vitruvius Britannicus. But the late Duke, a little before his Death, altered his Design, and built a noble Apartment on the South-side of the House, cased with Portland Stone, which was to have been one of the Wings to the House his Grace proposed to erect, had he lived a few Years longer.

His Grace had a noble Menagerie, where he kept a

great Variety of foreign Animals and Birds. The Park is small, but planted with Clumps of several Sorts of Oaks, to the West and North of the House; but on the East and South-side of the Park, there are Clumps of the different Sorts of Pines and Firs.

It has an easy Descent to the East, S. and S. W. with the Prospect of a rich and beautiful Landscape, bounded by the Sea for 30 Miles in Length. The Isle of Wight terminates the South-west Prospect, and the famous St. Rook's hill covers it from the North. His late Grace erected a Room on a rifing Ground, at the upper Part of the Park, from whence is a View of the Country for many Miles, and a noble Prospect of the Sea, from the Harbour of Portsmouth quite round by the Ise of Wight, many Leagues out to Sea. In this Room the Duke frequently entertained Company at Dinner, there being a good Kitchen built near it, with many other Conveniencies; a very pretty Garden, flored with a great Variety of curious Plants and Flowers in Front, and on each Side of the Room, so as to render the Place very delightful.

Near Godwood is a Seat of the late Right Honourable the Countes Dowager of Derby; it is called Halnaker, and was formerly in the Possession of the Delawars. The antient Part of the House is the Remains of a Cattle: from the Windows of the Front there is a fine Prospect of the Sea. The Park is small, but very beautiful. The late Earl of Derby made considerable Ad-

ditions to the House.

About three Miles to the East of Godwood lies Charleton, a small Village, remarkable for being the Seat of Fox-hunters. Here are many small Hunting-houses built by Persons of Quality, who reside there during the Season for Fox-hunting; but the most beautiful of these Buildings is that of his Grace the late Duke of Richmond.

Here is also a large Room, which was designed by

the Right Hon. the Earl of Burlington, where the Gentlemen Fox-hunters dine every Day together, during

their Stay at the Village.

By the Side of this Village is a Forest, which was formerly in the Possession of the Lumleys, but for some Years belonged to the late Duke of Richmond, who greatly beautified it, by cutting fine Ridings through the several Parts of it, and making many new Plantations in it.

About a Mile from Chichester, on the London Road, is erected (fince the late Rebellion) a strong Fort, well planted with Guns; this Fort being the only Pass to the Town by Land, as all the rest of the Ground about

it is a deep Marsh.

About three Miles from the Town is the Parishchurch of Bosom, which is a large handsome Building. In it is a very antient Monument, with a Female Figure upon it, supposed to represent the Daughter of King Canute. In digging not long ago in the Church, was found the Head of a Man in Stone. The Sculpture of the Hair and Features is very discernible. From the Chin to the Crown are about 20 Inches; and confequently the Height of the whole Body of the Figure must have been about 15 Feet. It is conjectured to have been one of the Saxon Ido's. The Head, by Direction of the Minister of the Parish, is now reposited in the Church; which is hardly to be reconciled to Propriety, if it really is what it is conjectured to be. The Stalls in this Church have very antient Carvings upon them.

From Chichester, the Road lying still West, we pass in Sight of the Earl of Scarborough's fine Seat at Stanfed, an House surrounded with thick Woods, through which there are the most agreeable Vistas cut that are to be seen any-where in England; and particularly at the West Opening, which is from the Front of the House, they sit in the Dining-room, and see the Town

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and Harbour of Portsmouth, the Ships at Spithead, and also at St. Helen's; which, when the Royal Navy happens to be there, is a glorious Sight.

In our Passage to Portsmouth, we passed by Fareham, and by Portchester, a Castle built out of a Roman City, where many of the French Prisoners are now (1760.) secured.

On the East-side of the Harbour lies the Island of Portsea, about 14 Miles in Compass, fertile in Corn, and very pleasant, surrounded at High-water on all Sides by the Sea; but united to the Continent at the Northern Extremity by Port-bridge, which was for-

merly defended by a Fortress.

In Portsmouth Haven 1000 Sail of the biggest Ships may ride fecure. The Mouth is not fo broad as the Thames at Westminster, and that secured on Gosport Side by Charles Fort, James Fort, Borough Fort, and Block-house Fort, which has a Platform of above 20 great Guns level with the Water. On the other Side by Portsmouth, stands South sea Castle, built by King Henry VIII. The Government has within these few Years bought, and annually occupied, more Ground for additional Works, and no doubt it may be made impregnable; for a shallow Water may be brought quite round it. The Yards, the Docks, the Storehouses, where all the Furniture is laid up in the exactest Order, (so that the Workmen can find any Implement in the Dark) exceed Imagination; as do the immense Quantities of all Sorts of military and naval Stores. The Ropehouse is 870 Feet long, one continued Room, almost a Quarter of a Mile. I had the Pleasure of seeing a great Cable made here, in my first Visit to that Place: it required 100 Men to work at it, and so hard is the Labour, that they could work but four Hours in the Day.

The smallest Number of Men continually employed

in the Yard is 1000, and that but barely sufficient. These, now in Time of War, are disciplined and formed into a Regiment, as they were in the last War: The Commissioner is Colonel; the Builder is Lieutenant Colonel; the Clerk of the Checque Major; and the rest of the Officers, Captains, Lieutenants, &c.

Here is also a good Counterscarp, double Moat, with Ravelins in the Ditch, and double Palisadoes, and advanced Works, to cover the Place from any Approach, where it might be practicable. The Strength of the Town is also considerably augmented on the Landside, by the Fortifications raised of late Years about the Docks and Yards; and those Parts made a particular Strength by themselves: and though they are indeed in some Sense independent one on another, yet they cover and strengthen one another, so that they cannot be separately attacked on that Side, while they are both in the same Hands.

These Docks and Yards are now like a Town, and are a kind of Marine Corporation within themselves; there being particular large Rows of Dwellings, built at the public Charge, within the new Works, for all the principal Officers of the Place; especially for the Commissioner, the Agent of the Victualling, and such-like.

This Haven is so well known, as to require no very particular Description: Yet from the Excellency of it, we will examine it by the Charactersflics of a persect Harbour, laid down from the ablest Writers on naval Affairs; premising, that they give these only as ideal Marks of what, according to their Conceptions, should belong to a Place deserving that Title. The first then is, 'That it be so situated, and of such a Figure, as to be secure from all, or at least from most Winds.' The Harbour of Portsmouth is so covered by the Towns of Portsmouth and Gosport, the Common, the Block bouse, Gun-wharf, Dock-yard, Plantatations, and the high

Hill of Portsdown, that the Wind cannot blow from any Point of the Compass to the Detriment of Ships at Anchorinit. The second Rule is, 'That it be of a proper Depth, fo that Ships of any Size may lie fecurely without raking their Bottoms.' This Port is fo deep, that a First-rate Ship can ride at the lowest Ebb. without touching the Ground; and as fhe lies at Anchor, the can take in her Sea-stores and Guns, and be at Sea in Half an Hour. The third is, ' That the Bottom be found and fit for Anchorage.' In respect to this, no Harbour can more exactly answer the Description than that of Portsmouth. The next requires, That there be no fudden Rocks, Shelves, Sands, or other troublesome Impediments.' From all these this Haven is intirely exempt. The fifth demands, 'That it fhould be capacious, fo as to hold a large Number of Ships with Ease and Safety; and, if possible, divided into several Branches.' This noble Port is so spacious, that it can conveniently contain the whole Royal Navy, or at least as great a Part thereof as is ever laid up in ordinary. The main Harbour runs up directly two Miles in Length from South to North, and then separates into two Branches, one running N. N. W. and the other N. E. each of them nearly of the same Extent. The fixth Requisite is, 'That there be no Bars or other Obstructions to embarrass its · Entrance, and which may render the Access difficult or dangerous.' Partsmouth Harbour is not broader at the Mouth, as I have already said, than the Thames at Westminster; and as the Water flows seven, and ebbs but five Hours, the Flux is greater out than in, so that the Bottom is always fcouring, and the Water running out at an Angle throws the Bar to the S. W. which is called the Spit, and leaves a deep Channel, close under Shore, to South-sea Castle. The next demands, 'That the Sides, or the Mouth, be well protected by Forts, Block-houses, and other Fortifications,

tions, more especially if it be seated immediately upon the Sea.' There is scarce any thing in this respect wanting that could be wished at Portsmouth; for if attacked by Sea, the Enemies Ships must come directly under South-fea Caftle, and be afterwards exposed to a long Train of Cannon from the Town and the Block-house, which must rake them fore and aft, for a Mile together, before they reach the Haven's Mouth; and when stopped there, liable to their accumulated and constant Fire. The eighth is, 'That it have a Pharos or Light-house, or other conspicuous Seamarks.' Portsmouth is as much distinguished in this as in any of the other Particulars. The ninth Position is, That there be an Arfenal for building and repairing Ships, commodious in all respects, and more especially for launching them.' The Yard of Portsmouth is so convenient, that it has scarce its equal. Here are four Docks, one of them fo large as to admit two capital Ships at a time; fo that five may be docked and cleaned in a Day, while the Spring Tides continue; that is, between 40 and 50 in a Month; and the Improvements made here for fetting of Masts, and rigging with the utmost Dispatch, are such, as would demand a long Description. The next is, 'That' there be Plenty of Naval Stores, Ammunition, and Provisions of every Sort.' It may be affirmed, that there is no Place in Europe where these are to be found better in their respective Kinds, in larger Quanties, or in more complete Order; infomuch, that they aftonish ordinary Spectators, and yet are most admired by those by whom they are best understood. It is. farther required, That in the Night Season, or in 'Time of Danger, there may be a Boom or Chain in Readiness to secure the Entrance.' This therealso is at Portsmouth, lying at the Bottom of the Harbour's Mouth, which can be raised and fastened inmediately on both Sides, so as to stop any naval Force, which

which must be exposed to the Artillery of the Town, Block-house, and Gun-wharf; which last contains all the Cannon of the Ships in ordinary, and where a most destructive Battery may be raised at Pleasure. The last is, 'That there be a constant and sufficient Garison for the Security of the Port, against any sudden Attempt to surprize, or any Descent that may be made in order to reduce it.' This also there is at Ports-mouth; which is now a Town regularly fortissed in the modern Stile; and the Common, the Dock-yard, and the Gun-wharf, are likewise so effectually secured, that it would necessarily require a a very numerous Army to invest and besiege it; nor could it then be taken without affording Time sufficient for its Relief. But how such a Descent should be made, at least in our

Days, is not easy to conceive.

Thus it appears that Portsmouth derives from Nature all the Prerogatives the most fertile Wits and most intelligent Judges could devise or defire; and that these have been seconded by Art, without Confideration of Expence, which, in national Improvements, is little to be regarded. Add to all this, the firiking Excellence of its Situation, which is fuch, as if Providence had expresly determined it for that Use to which we fee it applied, the bridling the Power of France. A further, indeed a very capital Convenience to the Harbour of Portsmouth, is the safe and spacious Road of Spithead, which lies between the Continent of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and is about 20 Miles in Length, and, in some Places, no less than three in Breadth; fo that it is capable of holding 1000 Ships at a Time, without the least Difficulty or Danger. It is defended from all Winds blowing from the West to the South-east by the high Lands of the Ise of Wight, and from the Winds of the opposite Quarter by the main Land of Hampsbire, the Town of Portsmouth fronting the Middle of the Road. The very Sands in its Neighbourhood contribute to its Safety; as,

12.24.

for Instance, the Spit, lying to the North, breaks the Sea on that Side, as the Horses Bank does to the East, and No-Man's-Land and the Mother Bank on the South. As to the Bottom, it is perfectly found and good, and the Flux and Reflux of the Sea repairs all the Injuries done by the Anchors. The Reader will be pleased to remark, that the Limits of this Road are exactly diftinguished by Buoys properly placed; fo that here, as well as in respect to the King's Yard and the Harbour, the fingular Security and admirable Congruity of every thing has induced the Sailors, a fenfible though not a ceremonious fort of People, to express the Ease and Sasety they enjoy, by calling it the King's Bed-Chamber. The Reader, I fay, will remark, that all this arises from the Additions to, and Improvements made by Art on, the Advantages bountifully bestowed by Nature; and this in a long Series of Years, after much Observation, and with a large Expence.

Here is a School founded by the Government for the instructing of Youth in Mathematicks and Naviga-

tion, to qualify them for the Sea Service.

Portsmouth returns two Members to Parliament. It is a well-inhabited, thriving Corporation; and is greatly inriched by the Fleet's having so often and so long lain there, as well as large Fleets of Merchant-men: besides, the constant fitting out of Men of War, and the often paying them, at Portsmouth, has made a great Concourse of People to it. Canden, so long ago as the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, takes notice, that Portsmouth was populous in time of War, but not so in time of Peace: but now the Business of the Navy is so greatly increased, and so much of it always done here, that it may be said, that there is more to do at Portsmouth, even in time of Peace, than was then in time of War.

The Government of the Place is by a Mayor and Aldermen, &c. and the Civil Government is no more interrupted by the Military, than if there were no Gari-

fon there: fo that we have very feldom had any Complaint either of Want of Discipline among the Soldiers,

or Want of Prudence in the Magistrates.

Since the Increase of Business at this Place, the Confluence of People has been so great, that the Town not admitting any Inlargement for Buildings, a kind of Suburb, or rather a new Town, has been built on the heathy Ground adjoining, which is so considerable, that it promises to outdo, for Numbers of Inhabitants and Beauty of Buildings, even the Town itself; and the rather, as it is unconfined by the Laws of the Garison, and unincumbered with the Corporation-Badges, Free-

doms, Town-duties, Services, and the like.

In the Year 1753. an Act passed, for building a Chapel on the Common, in the Parish of Portsea, and for vesting Power in certain Trustees for the Regulation thereof; the Preamble to which fets forth, that the faid Parish is large and populous; and that that Part of it. which is commonly called The Common, is of late Years very much increased in the Number of Houses and Inhabitants, infomuch that the Parish Church is not capable of holding onet-hird Part of the Inhabitants professing the Doctrine of the Church of England; and that the faid Parish Church being fituated more than a Mile from The Common, many of the aged, decayed, infirm, and fickly Persons, who are Inhabitants of the faid Common, are prevented from attending divine Service: wherefore the Inhabitants of the faid Common have agreed among themselves to creet and build a Chapel, in some convenient Place, upon, in, or near the faid Common, at their own Expence. See the Act.

July 3. 1760. at Twelve in the Morning a dreadful Fire broke out in the Dock yard of this Place, in a fine Pile of Building that was filled with some of the best Stores for his Majesty's Navy; in the lower Part of which were Pitch, Tar, Oil, and Turpentine; in the upper, Cables, Ropes, Sails, and Canvas. The

next

Hants.

next Store-house was the Spinning-house, and above it Hemp. The next, where the Bell stood, was a long Lane, piled up with decayed Stores; the next to that, were the Rope-makers Laying-walk, and the Taring-walk, over which were Sails, Canvas, and Ropes; all which were confumed. The Beams, by the Violence of the Fire, flew in the Air like fo many Paper Serpents, and many of them fell in Gofport. It rained very hard all Night. It is thought that the Stores caught Fire by the Lightning, which was very terrible, the Element appearing as all on a Blaze. In the Warehouses consumed, were reposited 1050 Tons of Hemp, 500 Tons of Cordage, and about 700 Sails, besides many hundred Barrels of Tar, Oil, &c. Yet with all this Devastation, amounting to a very great Loss, such was the Diligence exerted, and such was the Quantity of Stores in the naval Way at Chatham, and other Magazines of this Nature, that all was eafily and very foon supplied, without any very sensible Loss by the Public, tho' in the Midst of a heavy and expensive War.

Next, we arrived at the Portsdown Hills, which are of Chalk, and at a moderate Distance from the Shore

extend themselves into Suffex.

Here we turned to admire the Face of the Ground we had passed. The Ports, Creeks, Bays, Ocean, Castles, and Ships, the Isle of Wight, Portchester, the considerable Town of Gosport, Portsmouth, Southampton, Chichester, and all the Coast from Portland life to

Suffex, were comprehended under one View.

from Portsmouth, West, the Country lies low and slat, is sull of Creeks and Inlets of the Sea and Rivers, all the Way to Southampton; so that we ferry over three times in about 18 Miles, besides going over the Bridge at Tichfield. The first of these Ferries is at Portsmouth itself, to wit, cross the Mouth of the Harbour, from the Point above-mentioned, to Gosport, a large Town

and of great Trade, especially in time of War, and which has been very lately improved by an Hospital, and by strong Fortifications. From thence we ride to Tichfield, as above, where we pass the River Alre. Thence, at about four Miles, we pass another River at Busselton, narrow in Breadth, but exceeding deep, and eminent for its being able to carry the largest Ships: here is a Building yard for Ships of War; and in King William's Time two Eighty-gun Ships were launched here. It seems, the Sasety of the Creek, and the Plenty of Timber in the Country behind it, are the

Reasons of building so much in this Place.

From hence, when we come opposite to Southampton, we pass another Creek, which comes down from Winchefter, and is both very broad and deep. On the opposite Bank stands the antient Town of Southampton, on the other Side of which comes down another large River, called the Test, entering Southampton Water by Redbridge; so that the Town of Southampton stands upon a Point running out into the Sea, between two very fine Rivers, both navigable for some Way up the Country, and particularly useful for bringing down Timber out of one of the best wooded Counties in Britain; for the River on the West-side of the Town comes by the Edge of New-forest. But of late Years, and fince the above was written, there has been for much Timber cut down in this Forest, and such Neglect in fencing and fecuring the young Trees, that unless there be more Care taken to preserve it, there will be scarce any Timber left there in a few Years; and here it may not be amiss to take notice, that the Perfons, whose Employments were designed to preserve and encourage the Growth of Timber, are generally the People who destroy it: to which they are led by the Perquifites of their Places, which ought never to be allowed of. But perhaps there is not a more extraordinary Employment, than that of Surveyors of the Woods, as it hath been managed of late Years. But

But now that we are in the Neighbourhood of Portsmouth, we cannot pass over in Silence the extraordinary Will of Richard Norton, Esq; which at the time made much Noise in the World.

This Gentleman died in December 1732. and left his Real Estate of about 6000 l. per Ann. and a Perfonal, said to be to the Value of 60,000 l. to the 'Poor, 'Hungry, and Thirsty, Naked and Strangers, Sick, 'Wounded, and Prisoners, to the End of the World;' and appointed the Parliament of Great Britain to be his Executors; and, in case of their Resusal, the Bishops; and left his Pictures, and other Valuables, to the King. But his Will was afterwards set aside on the Score of Insanity: strong Marks of which it carried in the Face of it.

Hence from Ports bridge, upon a little Turning of the Shore, we see Havant, a small, but neat Markettown, in which are Houses of good Accommodation: and near it is Warblington, formerly a beautiful Seat of the Earls of Salisbury, and afterwards of the Cottons. Before these lie two Islands; the larger called Haling, the other Thorney; and each has its Parish-church. The Hills leading from Havant to Portsmouth (on which are placed Beacons, to give Notice of Invasions in times of Danger) afford a most delightful View of the Sea,

for Miles together.

Southampton is a truly antient Town, which, having been many Years decaying in its Trade, of late has very much improved in that of Portugal Wines, which are imported here, and fent into many Places Inland, where formerly the London Merchants used to deal; and that in great measure owing to the Duties being easier at Southampton than at London. They also carry on some Trade with the Ides of Jersey and Guernsey. The Town is large and populous, has a fair Highstreet, a spacious Quay, and, if its Trade should thoroughly revive, is able to contain great Numbers of People. There is a French Church, and no inconfiderable

fiderable Congregation belonging to it, and a Freefehool founded by Edward VI. Here are still some Merchants, who trade to Newfoundland for Fish, which they carry to the Streights, &c. and some Shipbuilding also is carried on here, though not near so much as formerly.

The Town returns two Members to Parliament. It had formerly the fole Privilege from the Crown of importing Wines; which, though a vast Advantage to it, the Corporation either carelessly or corruptly sold

to London.

The Situation of Southampton between two Rivers was to its Advantage formerly, in point of Strength; and it is, besides, strongly walled with very large Stones, full of those little white Shells, like Honeycombs, which grow upon the Backs of Oysters. This is a fort of Stone extremely hard, and seems to be gathered near the Beach of the Sea. These Walls have many Lunets and Towers, in some Places double ditch'd; but the Sea encompasses near half the Town. It was built in the Reign of Edward III.

I observe they have a Method of breaking the Force of the Waves here, by laying a Bank of Sea ore, as they call it. It is composed of long, slender, and strong Filaments, like pill'd Hemp, very tough and durable; I suppose thrown up by the Sea: and this performs its Work better than Walls of Stone, or natural Cliff:

At the South-east Corner, near the Quay, is a Fort with some Guns upon it, called the Tower. On one was an Inscription, denoting its being erected by King Henry VIII. in the Year 1542. In the North-west Corner was a strong Castle, with a Mount, walled about at top, as a Keep: up in this stood a round Stone Tower, with a winding Acent.

The Main of this Town confilts of one broad Street, running through its Length. There are in it many oblireligious Ruins, and great Warehouses, Cellars, Store houses, &c. Part of the old Wall, which once defended

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defended the Place, is still standing. It is well-peopled, and has five Churches. This Place is memorable for the Experiment of King Canute, who, to silence the Flattery of his Courtiers, seated himself on the Banks of the River, with all his Regal Ornaments, and commanded the Tide not to approach his Footstool.

About a Mile from this Town, on the Banks of the River Itching, is a vast large Pile of Earth, which rifes in the Form of a Cone, from a large wide Foundation, of great Extent and Circumference, which they call Bevis-Mount. It is supposed to be an antient Fortification, thrown up by the Saxons, under the Command of Bevis, to oppose the Passage of the Danes over the River, who lay encamped on the other Side. The River is not very large, but the Tide running up into it a good Way beyond the Town, forms a kind of Bay just under this Mount, which being contiguous to an Estate belonging to the late Earl of Peterborough, his Lordship purchased it, and converted it into a kind of Wilderness; and as it was full of Trees and Brambles, he cut through them divers circular and intricate Walks and Labyrinths. His Lordship used frequently to divert himself by dropping his Friends in the midst of this Wilderness, and, stealing away, let them wander up and down, till they found their Way out of it. The Mount terminates above, as is feigned of Parnafsus, in a kind of Fork; and between the two Spires is a Bowling-green, or Parterre, adorned with fine Italian Marble Statues, brought by his Lordship from abroad. It lies open on the Side facing the River, and, when the Tide is in, gives a most agreeable Profpect. On one Side of this Parterre, declining gradually from the Top of one of the Spires to the Green, is planted a little Viney 1, exposed to the South; and on the other Side, on the very Summit of the Spire, flands a Summer-house, elegantly built and contrived, with a good Cellar under it, where his Lordship kept his Wines, having no good Cellarage at his House, the Kulma of the

which is near a Quarter of a Mile from the Mount, from which his Lordship called it Bevis-Mount. He intended to rebuild the House, and convert all the Grounds lying between it and the Mount into Gar-

dens, had he lived a little longer.

There are many things fabled here of Bevis, as there are in Wales and Cornwall of King Arthur, both of whom have suffered much from Legendary Writers and Tradition; for as King Arthur perform'd many brave and gallant Acts in War, and was of great bodily Strength, so Bevis, who was a Saxon Lord, was a Man of much military Courage and Conduct, as well as personally strong. He was a great Opposer of the Normans, and followed them down to Wales, and gave them Battle, near Caerdiff, in Glamorganshire, but was there deseated. It is said his Sword may be still seen at Arundel Castle; yet there are some who, from the Fables with which their Stories are mingled, doubt whether ever there were such Persons as either of them.

Within these sew Years, Southampton has been much resorted to for Sea bathing; and it must be owned, it is a very convenient Place for that useful and salutary Purpose; but in this Particular is not to be compared to

Port smouth.

On the Left-hand, about three Mi'es down the River, are the Ruins of the once celebrated Littleley or Nettley-Abbey; the Church of which has a little Part of the Roof standing, with many Rooms, as the Refectory, &c. which still distinctly shew what a hand-some Edifice it once was. Round the Whole are large Mounds, Part of which kept up the Bounds of Fish-ponds above, whose Overslowings were conveyed down for fresh Water, to a sort on the Banks of the River, which is supposed to have been erected as a Defence to the Abbey. Though the Floors of the Fort are gone, yet the Walls are still perfect and intire; and the Moat round it remains, and Water in it. The largest Ivies I ever saw grow out of the Ruins of the Abbey

Abbey and Church. The great Church of Romsey (of which Town hereaster) and this, seem to have been built on a like Model.

At Southampton, I took a Passage over to the Isle of Wight, and in two Hours arrived at Cowes, by the Way

paffing by Calfbot Caftle.

This Castle is on the East Point of the New Forest. It is supposed capable of guarding the Entrance into Southampton Water, which is not two Miles broad, and the Channel for Ships very narrow. About two Miles from the Castle, on the opposite Side, is the Mouth of the River Hamble, in which the Tide slows up part of 12 Miles to Bishop's-Walton.

Cowes is the chief Sea-port Townin this Island, and, in time of War, the general Place of Rendezvous for Merchant ships waiting for Convoys, being secur'd, in some measure, by the Guns of the Castle, but more by the Neighbourhood of Portsmouth. We walked sour

Miles, and came to

Newport, the principal Town in the Island, which returns two Members to Parliament. It is large and

populous.

The Island is very pleasant, and so fruitful, that One Year's Crop will serve the Inhabitants for seven Years; who therefore supply Portsmouth, and the Parts adjacent, with the Surplus. It abounds particularly in Corn, Cattle, Hares, Rabbets, Wild-sowl, Fish, &c. It is 60 Miles in Circumference. Its Militia is the best disciplined in England. Its Wool, in Fineness, is next to that of Cotswold. Carrisbrook Castle, now in Ruins, is noted for being the Place of Imprisonment of King Charles I. carried thither from Hurst Castle, a Castle built by Henry VIII. for the Security of the New Forest.

Sanham, in the Isle of Wight, has also a Castle; so has South-Yarmouth in Norfolk, and which returns two Members to Parliament.

Spithead,

Spithead, (between Portsmouth and this Island) and St. Helen's, near the Isle of Wight, are famous for the Rendezvous of the Royal Navy of England.

Appledore-come is a very beautiful Seat in this Isle, be-

longing to the late Sir Robert Worsley, Bart.

Near a Village called Ryd are the Ruins of Quar Abbey, now a Farm house, whose Situation is beauti-

ful, in the midft of fine Woods and Meads.

This Island is noted for having been once advanced to the Title of a Kingdom, by King Henry VI. in behalf of Henry Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, his great Favourite, who was crowned King of Wight, and of the Isles of Jersey and Guernsey, in 1445. but, dying two Years after, the Isle lost the Title; for King Edward IV. who succeeded Henry, bestowed it upon his Father-in law, Richard Woodville, Earl Rivers, with the Title of Lord of Wight, as the late Earl of Derby was, and as the present Duke of Athol is, Lord of the Isle of Man.

Returning to Southampton, I was at the Extent of my proposed Journey West, intending to look no farther this Way for the present. I went North-east, leaving Winchester a little on the Lest; and came into the Partsmouth Road at Peterssield, a Town chiefly noted for its Inns, and standing in the Middle of a Country that used to abound with Oak-timber, and which returns two Members to Parliament. From hence we came to Alton, and in the Road thither began a little to taste the Pleasure of the Western Downs, which reach

from Winchester almost to that Place.

The Duke of Bolton has two noble Seats in this County, one between Alton and Alresford, and one at

Basing, of which hereaster.

Alton, is a small Market-town, of no Note; neither is there any considerable Manufacture in all this Part of England, except a little Drugget and Shalloon-making; otherwise the whole Counties of Kent, Suffex, Surry,

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Surry and Hampshire, are not employed in any confiderable Woolen Manufacture.

From Alton we came to Farnham, a large populous Market-town, the farthest that Way in the County of Surry, from London; and, excepting Hempstead and London, as we observed above, was once the greatest Corn-market in England, particularly for Wheat, of which vast Quantities used to be brought hither every Market-day. But for some Years past, its Market for Corn has very much dwindled; but it has fo greatly improved in its Hops, for upwards of 50 Years together, that it may be faid to outdo Canterbury, Maidflone, and any of the Places in Kent, most noted for that Commodity; and this not only in Quantity, but Goodness. In short, all the Neighbourhood about Farnham is one general Hop-ground; and, to shew the Excellency of the Product, Farnham Hops now lead the Price at all Markets in England. Their Superiority in this Article is owing to their great Care in picking, drying, and fine Bagging.

At this Town is a Castle built by a Bishop of Winchefter, which has been in a constant Succession possessied by the Bishops of that Diocese ever since King Stephen's Time to this Day, though the present Bishop has not been there these 12 Years; for though it is a fine Situation, and affords a noble Prospect, yet it is bleak, and the Apartments are too extensive to be warm. The Kitchen Utenfils exhibit a pleasing Idea of the old English Hospitality; for which benevolent Purpose such immense Revenues were formerly given to Ecclefiastics. This Palace is a magnificent Structure, it is deeply moated, and strongly walled, with Towers at proper Distances. It stands upon the Edge of an Hill, where there is a fine Park, flocked with 700 Head of Deer, the Property of the Bishop, who has them fent, together with Fruit from the Garden, &c. to supply his Table at Chelfea.

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One large and broad Street of the Town below-hill fronts the Castle, in which an elegant Musick-room has been lately built, at the Expence of Mr. Baker, who has furnished it with a very fine Organ. The Main of the rest of the Town consists of a long strait Street, croffing it at right Angles. The River runs

parallel to it on the South.

About two Miles from Farnham is More-park, formerly the Seat of Sir William Temple, who, by his Will, ordered his Heart to be put into a China Bason, and buried under a Sun-dial in his Garden; which was accordingly performed. This House is situated in a Valley, furrounded on every Side with Hills, having a running Stream through the Gardens, which, with a fmall Expence, might be made to ferpentize through all the adjacent Meadows, in a most delightful manner. Going from this Seat, on the Left-hand, under an high Cliff, is a noted kind of natural Grotto. which they call Mother Ludoe's Hole, through which runs a fine and strong Rill of Water. The Grotto is large, but diminishes and winds away, as the Spring feems to have directed it. The Owner has paved the Bottom of it with a kind of mosaic Tile, and has separated the wider Part from the narrower behind by a little Parapet, through which issues the Flow of Water, which trills through Marble Troughs, one below another, till it is conveyed out of the Grotto; and there murmuring down a confiderable Declivity, over many artificial Steps, falls into the River on the Righthand; all which gives a very delighful Entertainment to fuch as choose in warm Weather to make little Collations or Vifits, there being Settees, with Arms, for their Conveniency.

From this Grotto you command a fine Prospect of the Meadows and Woods which lie below it, and over-against it; and these are bounded again by Hills; which makes the Whole one of the most romantic

Situations imaginable.

About

About a Mile onwards from the above described Grotto, is the Seat lately possessed by Mr. Child, and now in the Possession of Thomas Orby Hunter, Esq: who has made great Improvements in the Gardens. It is built on the Site of Waverley-Abbey, a Monastery for Ciffercian Monks, built by William Giffard, Bishop of Winchester; the Kitchen of which, and other Parts of its Ruins, are still feen pretty intire, and were a few Years ago much more fo, before it fell into the Hands of a Farmer, who used to load his Teams with the Ruins to mend the Roads, and for his private Pur-

From Farnham, that I might take in the whole County of Surry, I took the Coach-Road over Baghotheath, and that great Forest, as it is called, of Windsor.

Bagshot-heath, which at present is an horrid barren Country, is capable of great Improvement, as may be judged by the several Inclosures on the Borders of it, and some in the Centre also, which, from being in the fame Condition (as we at present see the whole Face of the Country thereabouts very barren, yielding nothing but Heath and Worts), now produces good Corn and Grass; and in some Parts are Plantations of Trees. which thrive well. On the Edge of this Heath are feveral Seats of Noblemen; but those which require Notice are, first, the late Earl of Arran's, which is a large Inclosure, the Wood-walks and other Plantations being upwards of two Miles in Circumference; and the Park, which runs on the other Side of the House, is upwards of three Miles. The Plantations in this Inclosure have made good Progress, which is a Proof, that the Soil thereabouts is, as I have faid, capable of great Improvement.

The Duke of Roxborough has a Seat in this Place, where his Grace used to reside a great Part of the Summer and Autumn, for the Pleasure of Shooting, his

Grace being fond of that Sport.

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About four Miles from Bagfhot, and three from Wockenham, upon the Forest, is Easthamstead Park, now in the Possession of William Trumbull, Esq. Son of Sir William Trumbull, who was Secretary of State to King William III. This was an Hunting-feat of King Henry VIII. and to this House his Queen retired from the Court. This Park, though still inclosed with a Pale, has been for some Years disparked, and turned into Farms; but by the present Possessor is so well laid out and improved, as to have the Beauties of a Park, a Farm, and Garden, all blended together; which renders it extremely agreeable, and, at the same time, profitable to the Matter: and altho' Part of the Soil of this Park is as bad as any Part of Windfor Forest, yet by the Draining and Dreffing of the Land, there have been as good Crops of Hay and Corn produced on it, as can be produced from Land of much greater Price; which is another strong Proof of this Forest being capable of great Improvements. The Owner has lately converted the greatest Part of the Land into a Park again.

This Defart of Land, of the like kind of Soil as about Bagshot, lies extended so much, that some say there are not less than 100,000 Acres, that lie all together, reaching out every Way in the Counties of Surry, Hampshire, and Berkshire; besides a great Quantity of Land, almost as bad as that between Godalmin and Petersfield, on the Road to Portsmouth, including some

Hills called the Hind head, and others.

It may not be amiss to take notice of a common Mistake in relation to Bagshot Mutton, so much valued by the Gentry, which they suppose to be sed there, and, from the Poorness of the Soil, rendered smaller than most other Mutton in England; whereas I am credibly informed, that none of the Sheep are sed at Bagshot, being brought from and sed upon Hampshire Downs, and sent to London. There are but three inconsiderable Butchers in Bagshot, who hardly sell Mut-

ton enough to supply the three Inns, viz. the Red. Lion, the King's-Arms, and the White-Hart.

Through this Defart we come into the great Western Road, leading from London to Salisbury, Exeter,

&c. and pass the Thames at Stanes.

The Bridge of Stanes, and Egham Causeway, which are Part of the Highway from London, to the West of England, having been, for some time, in a ruinous and dangerous Condition, and the Tolls and Duties laid by an Act passed in the Reign of Henry VIII. and another in that of Queen Elizabeth, amounting to no more than the clear Sum of 45 l. per Annum, the Bridgemafters were obliged to exact, at the Ferry there, exorbitant Rates for conveying Passengers over the Thames, in order the better to support the said Bridge and Causeway: and yet all proving insufficient, as well as burdensome, another Act passed in the Session of 1739-40. for the more effectual Maintenance and Well-keeping of them both: and the Act provides, that in case of the Reparation of the Bridge, or any other Accident which shall hinder Passengers or Carriages going over it, the Ferry shall exact no higher Rate for conveying over such Passengers, &c. than are laid for paffing over the Bridge.

Here recollecting that I had yet left the Inland Towns of the two Counties of Kent and Suffex, and great Part of the County of Surry, out of my Ac-

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From Stanes I turned S. and S. E. to Chertsey, another Market-town, where is a Bridge over the Thames: this Town is noted for the Burial place of Henry VI. whence his Bones were afterwards removed to Windsor by Henry VII. and also for its being the Retreat of the samous Mr. Abraham Cowley, where he lived distant from Hurries of the Court and Town, intirely taken up in Country-Business, Farming, and Husbandry, for his Diversion, and where he also dy'd.

From this Town, wholly employed in Malting, and L 3 in

in Barge-carriages down the River to London, I went away South to Woking, a private Country Market-town, so out of the Way, that it is very little heard of in England. It claims, however, some Honour, from its being once the Residence of the old Countess of Richmond, Mother to King Henry VII. who made her last Retreat here, where the King her Son built, of rather repaired, an old Royal House, on Purpose for her Residence, and where she ended her Days in Honour and Peace; the former Part of her Life having been much exposed to Storms and Dangers under the turbulent Reigns of the two preceding Monarchs.

From hence we came to Guilford, a handsome and considerable Market town. Here sometimes the Assizes are held, but always Elections for Parliament-Men for the County; the Town itself returning two. The River, which, according to Mr. Camden, is called the Wey, and which falls into the Thames at Oatlands, is made navigable to this Town, which adds greatly to its Trade; and by this Navigation a great Quantity of Timber is brought down to London, not from the Neighbourhood of this Town only, but even from the woody Parts of Sussex and Hampshire above 30 Miles from it, the Country Carriages bringing it hither in the Summer by Land.

Here is a small Remainder of an old Manusacture in the Clothing-trade; and it extends itself to Godalmin, Haselmere, and the Vale Country, on the Side of the Holmwood (of which I shall speak on another Occasion) quite to Darking. These Cloths of a middling Price have formerly been in great Repute, but afterwards lost their Credit for some time, till, by the Application and Skill of the Clothiers, of late they revived, whilst the Clothiers of Cranbrook and Tenterden in Kent, whose Goods are of the same Kind, are almost sunk to nothing, as I have already observed, p. 154.177.

This Clothing-trade, however small, is yet very affilling to the Poor of this Part of the Country, where the

the Lands, as I have noted, are but indifferent, the Inhabitants generally Cottagers, living chiefly by the Commons and Heath-ground thereabouts. Here is a School founded by Edward VI. and an Alms-house by George Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury, and endowed by him with Lands worth 300 l. a Year, of which he ordered 100 l. to be employed in setting the Poor at work, and the other 200 l. for the Maintenance of a Master, 12 Brethren and eight Sisters, who are each to have 2s. 6d. a Week. Here is a Corporation consisting of a Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, &c. and the Town returns two Members to Parliament. It is said the Occasion of this Erection and Endowment was to attone for his accidentally killing a Man.

But what struck me most, were the Ruins of an old Castle, and some of the Remains of a Palace of great Extent, which, as appears by the best Authorities, was the Residence of Ethelwald,, one of the Saxon Kings, about 800 Years ago. It also appears from the Foundations that have been dug up, at some Distance from the Place where the Ruins stand, that the whole Declivity of the Hill on the East side of the River Wey was occupied by this Monarch. I believe it was the Queen of this Potentate, Ebby, whose savourite Residence was called Etby's Home, or Ebby's House, now

converted into Epfom.

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On Wednesday the 23d of April, 1740. the Upper Church at Guilford in Surry fell down. It was an antient Building, and, not long before, 750 l. were expended upon it in Repairs; there was Preaching in it on the Sunday before, and Workmen were employed in taking down the Bells, who providentially had quitted the Spot about a Quarter of an Hour before the Accident happened, so that not one Person received any Hurt: Three Bells had been taken down, and the other three fell with the Steeple, which broke the Body of the Church to Pieces, though the Steeple received but little Damage by the Fall.

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From

From Guilford the Road to Farnham is very remarkable; for it runs along West from Guilford, upon the Ridge of an high chalky Hill, no wider than the Road itself; and the Declivity begins on either Hand, at the very Edge that bounds the Highway, and is very fleep and high. From this Hill is a Prospect either Way, to far, that it is furprifing; infomuch that one fees to the North, or North west, over Bagsbot heath, one Way, to the South east into Suffex the other Way, almost to the South-downs, and West to an unbounded Length, where the Horizon only restrains the Eye. This Hill being all Chalk, a Traveller feels the Effect of it in an hot Summer's Day, when the Reflexion of the Sun makes the Heat almost insupportable. This Hill reaches from Guilford so far as within two Miles and an half of Farnham.

The Hill, or rather the Ascent of it from Guilford, is called St. Catharine's Hill, where a yearly Fair is held; on the Summit whereof stands the Gallows; which is so placed, that the Town's-people, from the High frest, may sit at their Shop doors, and see the

Criminals executed.

Near Guilford, on the Left hand Side of the Road leading to Godalmin, are the Remains of an antient Chapel, fituated on the Summit of an Hill, so as to be seen at a considerable Distance every Way. This is called St. Catharine's Chapel. The Materials with which this was built, are a fort of Tile, which, when broken, has the Appearance of Iron within; and the Cement which joins these Tiles is now so hard, as scarce to be penetrated with the strongest Instrument. The only Remains of this Chapel are the outside Walls, which being built with these Materials, have resisted the Weather, and the common Fate of Things.

The great Road from London to Chichester, and from London to Portsmouth, lying through Guilford, it is consequently a Town very well furnished with Inns

for Accommodation of Travellers.

As is Godalmin also, the next Town, within three Miles of it, noted likewise, of late Years, for the Impostress Mary Tosts, who so long amused Statesmen, Physicians, Anatomists, and, in short, all Degrees of Men, learned and unlearned, with her infamous Rab-

bet-productions, &c.

Stocken-weaving is the only Manufacture worthy of Notice carried on in this Town. The best whitedbrown Paper is faid to come from hence, and that the Manufacture was fet up in the Reign of James I. An Hospital was built and endowed about 150 Years ago, by Richard Wyat of Chelmsford, Esq; for 10 old Men. In the Year 1739. the Small-pox carried off, in this Town, upward of 500 Persons in the Space of three Months, which was more than a third Part of the Inhabitants. Could this Devastation have been made by Inoculation, had it been tried? So much terrified as the Inhabitants of all Country Towns and Villages are at the Appearance of this Distemper but in a fingle Person, it is surprising, that this preventive Practice (in which the Body is previously prepared, the favourable Kind of the Pock in a manner chosen, and the Fever by this means rendered only symptomatic) is not oftener fallen into.

From Guilford lies a Cross road, as it may be called, to London, not frequented by Coaches or Carriers, or the ordinary Passengers to London, tho' it is by some reckoned the nearest Way, and is, without Question, much the pleasanter Road, if not the pleasantest in this Part of England; viz. From this Town to Leatherhead to Miles; from Leatherhead to London, over Bansteaddowns, 15 Miles; or, if you please, by Epsom, 17 Miles; which, though it is called the farthest Way, makes Amends abundantly by the Advantage and Pleasantness of the Road, and this being now a Turnpike-Road, is so well repaired, as that many Stage-coaches and other Carriages pass that Way to Portsmouth, Chichester, and

other Places.

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In the Road from Guilford to Epsom, being 15 Miles, you meet with a Town almost at every two Miles End, in or near which is an handsome Seat. The Road is always good, being a very hard Gravel. On the Right-hand of the Road lie the Downs, which have constantly a great Number of Sheep feeding on them; and on the Left, the Parks, Gardens, and cultivated Fields, belonging to the several Gentlemen who inhabit those Seats; all which render the Road very pleasant and agreeable.

The Seat of the Lord Onflow, which is the first on the Road from Guilford, is a noble Edifice, built after an Italian Model. The Gardens are beautiful, and laid out in the modern Taste. It has Plenty of good Water, and commands a delightful Prospect over a large Country, as far as Windsor Great Park. The House is seen from the Road up a grand Avenue, and presents itself to Travellers to be, what it really is, one

of the finest Seats in this Part of the Kingdom.

On the fame Road is an antient Seat, now in the Possession of Mr. Fox Lane, Member of Parliament for York City; which, though an old Building, yet having an open Situation in Front, towards the Downs, is rendered very pleasant; and the present Possession, being a Person of sine Taste, is beautifying the House within, and making pleasant Plantations about it; which will be a great Embellishment to the Seat.

Near this Road also is the Seat of Sir Conyers Darcy, situated on an Eminence, so as to be seen many Miles distant. The House is a large new Edifice, having a Park behind it, and is pretty well-timbered on every

Side.

I ought not to omit mentioning the Seat of the late Arthur Moore, Efq; at Fetcham, near Leatherhead, afterwards in the Possession of Thomas Revel, Esq; where no Cost has been spared to make a most beautiful Situation by Nature more delightful by Art.

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Two Miles from Guilford, on the Banks of the Wey, was a fine Seat, which belonged to Lord Onflow, but when I faw it, it was in the Possession of General Onflow, called Pyrford, and is exceeding pleafant, especially for the beautiful Intermixture of Wood and Water in the Gardens and Grounds adjoining. The House was large, but much out of Repair; and fince, I have been informed, is pulled down, and most of the Timber about it fold. Adjoining to the Park is a very convenient and ingenious Decoy, the first of the Kind in this Part of England. Near this is a small pleafant Seat, now in the Possession of the Hon. Thomas King, Son to Lord-Chancellor King; the Gardens belonging to this House, have been lately much improved; the Waters enlarged, and the whole opened according to the modern Taste, and, was there a better House, it might be reckoned one of the prettieft Villa's for a Summer Retreat in that Part of the Country.

At Painshill, near Cobham, is the Seat of the Hon. Charles Hamilton; who has made great Improvement by inclosing a large Tract of Land defigned for a Park, which was most of it so poor, as not to produce any thing but Heath and Broom; but by burning of the Heath, and spreading of the Ashes on the Ground, a Crop of Turneps was obtained; and by feeding Sheep on the Turneps, their Dung became a good Manure to the Land: so that a fine Sward of Grass is now upon the Land, where it was judged by most People impossible to get any Herbage. This is the fort of Improvement, which was mentioned in Norfolk, where Land has been raised from five Shillings an Acre per Ann. to 30 or 40s. and were this fort of Husbandry practifed in many other Parts of England, it would be of great Service to the Public, and amply increase the

Value of the Lands to the Proprietor.

The Lands which Mr. Hamilton has inclosed, have fine Inequalities; for every hundred Yards there are L 6 great

great Hollows, then rifing Grounds again, so that the Prospect is continually changing, as you walk over it; and (if we may guess by what this Gentleman has already done) the Whole will be laid out conformably to the natural Situation of the Ground; and when the Plantations, which are already made, are grown up, it will be a delightful Place; and this upon a Spot of Ground, which lay almost neglected, before this Gentleman became possessed of it; so that whatever is here laid out, will be intirely an Improvement, fince without it the Land would have produced very little Rent to the Proprietor. And would the Gentlemen who inclose large Tracts of Land into Parks, follow this Gentleman's Method, of inclosing such Land as is of little Value, and improve it, by making a good Sward upon it, their Estates would be greatly benefited by it.

The House which at present is on the Spot, is small, being what Mr. Hamilton sound built on it by his Predecessor; to which he has only added one handsome Room on the Backside, which is elegantly sitted up, and surnished with good Pictures: but as there are so many better Situations for an House in the Middle of the Park, it is supposed he will erect a new Mansion-house, answerable to the Design of his Plantations. This Gentleman has lately planted a Vineyard there.

At Byfleet near Cobham, is the handsome House of the late Lieutenant-General Cornwall. The Rev. and ingenious Mr. Spence has made neat Improvements to a small Place in the General's Neighbourhood, which shew what can be performed, at a small Expence,

by a Man of Taffe, as he is known to be.

The River Mole, which rifes near Darking, passes along by the Side of this Park, and in its Course serpentizes about in so pretty a manner, that you frequently lose Sight of it; and by its Windings makes the Course almost four Miles within the Compass of this Inclosure. Indeed this River is very narrow, and in dry Weather the Current is slow, and the Water not well coloured,

coloured, which, it must be allowed, takes off from its Beauty; yet there is room for great Improvements, by sloping off the Banks, so as to have a better View of the Water; and in many Places, by taking away some of the little Projection of the Banks, it may be widened, so as to appear considerable at some Distance; which, if done, will add much to the Beauty of the Place.

Near Cobham is the House of Mr. Bridges, which is built in a fingular Tafte, something after the Model of an Italian Villa, but very plain on the Outfide. The Apartments within feem very commodious, and the principal Rooms are elegantly fitted up, the Cielings being gilt, and all the Members are richly ornamented: the Offices below are very convenient, and judiciously contrived to answer the Purposes for which they were defigned. But what chiefly struck my Curiofity on feeing it, was a false Story contrived on each side of the House, taken from the Difference in the Height of the Side-rooms, from those principal Apartments: and these are converted into long Galleries, with a small Apartment at one End, which affords a Communication between them. In the Attic Story are good Lodging-rooms, which are well laid together; fo that for the Size of this House, there is hardly any other near London, which has more useful and elegant Apartments.

The Situation of it is on an Eminence, so that it commands the Prospect of the adjacent Fields, which are kept in very exact Order; and there is a Declivity from the House to the River Mole, which passes along by the Side of this Gentleman's Garden: and here it appears much more considerable than in any other Part of its Course; for Mr. Bridges has taken away so much of the Earth of the Banks, as to make the River, in some Places, sour or sive times broader than it naturally was, so that it makes an handsome Appearance. And by the Side of the Water, he has disposed the Earth

Earth into a natural Slope, with a broad Grass-walk, planted with fweet Shrubs on each Side; and at the End of the Walk is a fine Room, which has a View of the Water lengthwife, and is a fweet Retreat in hot Weather, being shaded by large Elm-trees on the South-fide, and having the Water on the North and East-fides, which renders it very cool and pleafant. This House is situated about half a Mile from the public Road to Portsmouth, and is so much hid by the Trees near it, as not to be seen until you rife on the Common or Heath beyond Cobham, where, in feveral Parts of the Road between that and Ripley, you have a fine View of it. On the Left hand of the great Road to Guilford, before we reach Ripley, is Ockham, the Seat of the Right Hon. Lord King, whose Park joins to the great Road. This was purchased by the Chancellor when he was Sir Peter King; the House was greatly repaired and beautified by the late Lord; and the prefent Lord has made great Improvements in the Park Gardens, fo as to render it as pleasant as any Seat can be, where there is a Want of Water.

The Parish-Church stands almost opposite to the House; and in the Church-yard is a Tomb erected over a Grave, in which is deposited the Corpse of a Carpenter of this Place, with the following merry

Epitaph upon the Tomb-stone:

JOHN SPONG, died November 17, 1736.

Who many a sturdy Oak has laid along,
Fell'd by Death's surer Hatchet, here lies Spong.

Posts oft he made, yet ne'er a Place could get,
And liv'd by Railing, tho' he was no Wit.

Old Saws he had, altho' no Antiquarian,
And Styles corrected, yet was no Grammarian.

Long liv'd he Ockham's premier Architect,
And, lasting as his Fame, a Tomb t'erect,
In vain we seek an Artist such as he,

Whose Pales and Gates were for Eternity;

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So here he rests from all Life's Toils and Follies, Oh! spare, kind Heaven, his Fellow Lab'rer Hollies.

At the North-east End of this Range of fine Seats, is Leatherhead, a little Thoroughfare town, with a Stone-bridge over the Mole; which is so called, from its remarkable Sinking into the Earth, at the Foot of Box-hill, near a Village called Mickleham; and working its Way under Ground like a Mole, rising again at or near this Town of Leatherhead; where its wandering Streams are united again, and form a pretty large River, as they were before, running together under Leatherhead Bridge, and from thence to Cobham; and so it pursues its Course to the Thames, which it joins at Molesey, which, doubtless, takes it Name from the River.

And here I cannot but take notice of an unaccountable Error, into which all the Writers I have met with have unwarily fallen, on account of this little River hiding itself in the Earth, and finding its Way underground, from the Foot of Beechworth, or Betsworth Castle, near Box-hill, and then rising again at Leatherhead, as above; as if the Water had at once ingulf'd itself in a Chasm of Earth, or sunk in a Whirl-pit. The great Camden has not a little contributed to this Error in his Account of it; but as he is in some measure set right by an Observation and Note in the last Edition of his Britannia, by the Right Rev. Continuator, I shall have the less Occasion to insist upon the Matter; and shall therefore refer to them.

The Town of Darking is eminent for several things worth Observation; as, first, for the great Roman Highway, called Stony-street, which passes through its Church-yard: Secondly, for a little Common or Heath, called the Cottman Dean, or the Heath of Poor Cottages (for so the Word signifies) belonging to the Town; and where their Alms-house stands, which some learned Physicians believe to be the best Air in

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England: Thirdly, for Mr. Howard's House and Garden, called Deepden; which stands in a small Valley, environed with steep Hills on every Side: The Levelground about the House was laid out into pleasant Walks and Gardens, which were planted with a great Variety of Exotic Trees and Plants, and the Hills were planted with Trees on every Side, excepting the South Aspect, which was planted with Vines; and formerly there has been some tolerable good Wine made there, . tho' the Hill is so steep, that it is very difficult to walk up it. At present the Gardens and Vineyard are neglected, and many of the Exotic Trees have been destroyed. On the Summit of the Hill, above the Vineyard, is a Summer-house, from which, in a clear Day, you may discern the Sea over the South-downs, near Arundel.

The Market of Darking is the most famous in England for Poultry, and particularly for the fattest Geese and the largest Capons. They are brought hither from as far as Horsham in Sussex; and it is the Business of all the Country, on that Side, for many Miles, to breed and fatten them up; and some are so large, as to be little inserior to Turkeys! I have seen them sold from 4s. to 4s. 6d. each, and weighing from 4 to 5 or 6 lb. apiece.

On Holy Thursday here is also a Fair, chiefly for Lambs, and the greatest in England of that Kind. I have passed over the so much celebrated House of Mr. Evelyn at Wotton, near Darking, not that it is not worth Notice, but because so many others have said so

much of it.

From Box hill, and particularly from this Part of it, is a fair View, in clear Weather, quite over the Weald of Suffex to the South-downs; and, by the Help of Glasses, the Town of Horsham, Ashdown Forest, the Earl of Egremont's House at Petworth, and the South-downs, as they range between Brighthelmstone and Arundel, may be plainly seen; besides an unbounded Prospect into Kent.

But

But a much nobler Prospect still does Leith-hill afford. I shall give it in the Words of Mr. Dennis \*, as

written to his Friend Mr. Serjeant, as follows:

· I never in all my Life (fays that famous Critic. who deserved a better Fate than he met with) left the Country without Regret, and always returned to it with Joy. The Sight of a Mountain is to me · more agreeable than that of the most pompous Edifice; and Meadows, and natural winding Streams, please me before the most beautiful Gardens, and the " most costly Canals.' We have lived to see this judicious Choice become general, tho' the old neglected Bard did not. 'So much (fays he) does Art appear to me to be furpaffed by Nature, and the Works of

· Men by the Works of God.

In a late Journey which I took into the Wild of Suffex, I passed over an Hill which shewed me a 6 more transporting Sight, than ever the Country had hewn me before, either in England or Italy. The Prospects which in Italy pleased me most, were that of the Valdarno from the Apennines; that of Rome, and the Mediterranean from the Mountain of Viterbo; of Rome, at 40, and of the Mediterranean at 50, " Miles Distance from it; and that of the Campagne of Rome, from Tivoli and Frescati; from which two Places you see every Fort of that famous Campagne, even from the Bottom of Tivoli and Frescati, to the e very Foot of the Mountain of Viterbo, without any thing to intercept your Sight. But from an Hill, which I passed in my late Journey into Suffex, I had a Prospect more extensive than any of these, and which furpassed them at once in rural Charms, in Pomp, and in Magnificence. The Hill which I speak of, is called Leith-bill, and is about five Miles Southward from Darking, about fix from Box-hill, and near 12 from Epsom. It juts itself out about two Miles beyond that Range of Hills, which terminates the North-downs to the South. When I faw, from one

<sup>\*</sup> See his Letters Familiar, Moral, and Critical, Vol. I. p. 30.

of those Hills, at about two Miles Distance, that Side of Leith-hill which faces the Northern Downs, it

appeared the beautifullest Prospect I had ever seen:
but after we conquered the Hill itself, I saw a Sight

that would transport a Stoic; a Sight that looked like Inchantment and Vision, but Vision beatific. Be-

neath us lay open to our View all the Wilds of Surry and Suffex, and a great Part of that of Kent,

admirably diversified in every Part of them with Woods, and Fields of Corn and Pasture, being

every-where adorned with flately Rows of Trees.

This beautiful Vale is about 30 Miles in Breadth, and about 60 in Length, and is terminated to the South by the majestic Range of the Southern Hills, and the Sea: and it is no easy Matter to decide, whether these Hills, which appear at 30, 40, 50

Miles Distance, with their Tops in the Sky, appear

more awful and venerable, or the delicious Vale between you and them more inviting. About Noon,

in a serene Day, you may, at 30 Miles Distance,

fee the very Water of the Sea, tho' a Chasm of the Mountains. And that which, above all, makes it a

noble Prospect, is, that at the same time that, at 30

Miles Distance, you behold the very Water of the Sea, at the same time that you behold to

the South the most delicious rural Prospect in

the World, at that very time, by a little Turn of your Head towards the North, you look

full over Box-hill, and fee the Country beyond it,

between that and London; and, over the very Stomacher of it, see St. Paul's at 25 Miles Distance,

and London beneath it, and Highgate and Hanftead

beyond it.

It may, perhaps (adds this famous Critic), appear incredible to some, that a Place, which affords so great and so surprising a Prospect, should have remained so long in Obscurity \*; in so great Obscuri-

ty, that it is unknown to the very Frequenters of Ep-

fom and Box-hill. But, alas! we live in a Country more fertile of great Things, than of Men to admire them. Who ever talked of Cooper's hill, till Sir John Denham made it illustrious? How long did Milton remain in Obscurity, while 20 paltry Authors, little and vile, if compared to him, were talked of, and admired? But here in England, 19 in 20 approve by other Peoples Opinions, and not by their own.

The Vale beneath Box hill is, for many Miles East and West, called the Holmward or Holmesdale; in the woody Part of which were often found Out-lying Red Deer; and in the Days of King James II. or while he was Duke of York, they hunted the largest Stags here, that have been seen in England. The Duke took great Care to have them preserved for his own Sport; but they have, since that, been most of them destroyed.

This Holmward is now chiefly overgrown with Furz; but was famous for producing such Quantities of Strawberries, that they were carried to Market by

Horse loads.

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It is suggested, that this Place was, in antient Times, the Retreat, for many Ages, of the native Britons, whom the Romans could never drive out; and, after that, it was the like to the Saxons, when the Danes harrassed the Nation, and ravaged the Country whereever they came. On this Account they retain here in Memory the following Lines:

This is Holmesdale, Never conquer'd, never shall.

The Country, though wild still, and perhaps haveing the same Countenance now in many Places, as it had a thousand Years ago; yet, in others, it is cultivated, and has Roads passable enough in the Summer, quite through it, on every Side; and the Woods are in a great measure cleared off.

Keeping along the Bottom of these Hills, and yet not entering into this Vale, the Country is dry, sandy,

or gravelly, and full of Gentlemens Houses, and good Towns; though, if we go but a little to the Righthand South, into the wild Part, is a deep, strong, and,

in the wet Seafon, an unpaffable Clay.

In paffing through Holmesdale, (upon the Ridge of Mountains which extend from Kent to the Land's end) you come to Wotton, a small Village, near which is the antient Seat of the Evelyns, which is situated amongst Meadows, having pleasant Streams of Water passing through them, and the neighbouring Hills covered with Woods, which renders the Situation pleasant in the Summer-season; but the Roads about it being very bad in Winter, it is not so convenient an Habitation at that Season. There are in the Skirts of this Parish, Pits out of which they dig Jet.

Travelling East at the Foot of the Hills, we came to Rygate, a large Market-town, situated in the Valley of Holmesdale; where are still to be seen the Ruins of a Castle, with a long Vault, and a Room at the End of it; in which, it is said, the Barons who were in Arms

against King John held their private Meetings.

Here is a Seat belonging to the late Mr. Parson's Family; which is beautified with Plantations, and a large Piece of Water. The House (which was formerly a Priory) is very large. There are two large Halls, each of them 50 Feet long, and of a proportionable Breadth; but the Cielings are much too low, which is a common Fault in most antient Buildings. There is a great Quantity of Carving about this House, which appears to have been standing many Years. The House and Gardens are surrounded with Hills on every Side, so as to render the Prospect very romantic.

In this Town the late Lord Shaftesbury had an House; to which he frequently retired, when he was inclined to seclude himself from Company. This House is now possessed by a private Gentleman, who has laid out and planted a small Spot of Ground in so many little Parts,

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as to comprise whatever can be supposed in the most noble Seats: so that it may properly be called a Model of a Garden and Park, for in the Garden there is a Mount, a River, a Parterre, and Wilderness, and without that, a Laun with sour or five Deer, terminated by a small Wood, and yet the whole Compass of Ground is not more than sour Acres. The Name it passes under to the Inhabitants of Rygate, is, The World in an Acre of Land.

Near Rygate are two miserable Borough-towns, which nevertheless send each of them two Members to Parliament; to wit, Gatton under the Side of the Hill, almost at Rygate, which also returns two Members;

and Blechingly more Eastward.

Rygate is noted for a Quarry of white Free-stone, which is soft, and endures the Fire very well in Winter, but neither Sun nor Air: It is much used by Chymists, Bakers, Glass houses, &c.

At Blechingly are an Alms-house and a Free school. At Nutfield, between Rygate and Blechingly, is another Branch of the Family of Evelyn, which has flourish-

ed there many Years.

From hence, croffing still all the Roads leading from London into Suffex, we came to a Village called Godstone, which lies on the Road from London to Lewes.

Keeping on East, we came to Westerham, a neat handsome, well-built Market-town, the first in Kent on that Side. The late Earl of Jersey built (or rather finished, for it was begun by a private Gentleman) a very noble House here, called Squirries, which is now in the Possession of a Descendant of Sir John Ward, who was Lord Mayor of London in the Year 1724. The House stands on a small Eminence, regarding the Land in the Front; but on the Back of the House the Ground rises very high, and is divided into several steep Slopes, which, as the Hills are to the South and

West of the House, renders the Situation damp and cold. Near the House are some Woods, thro' which the present Possessor has cut several Ridings, but many of them are too steep for that Purpose; and on the South side of the Hill, above the House, arise nine considerable Springs, which unite at a small Distance, and form the River Dart, which runs through Dartford, and afterwards discharges itself into the Thames.

All this Part of the Country, from Guilford to this Place, is very agreeably pleafant, healthy, and fruitful; and is overspread with good Towns, Gentlemens Houses, populous Villages, abundance of Fruit, with Hop-grounds and Cherry-orchards, and the Lands well cultivated: but all on the Right-hand, that is to say. South, is over-grown with Timber, has abundance of waste and wild Grounds, and Forests, and Woods, with many large Iron-works, at which they cast Iron Caldrons, Chimney-backs, Furnaces, Retorts, Boilingpots, Iron Cannon, Bomb-shells, Stink-pots, Handgrenadoes, Cannon-ball, & Cannon-ball, &

From hence going forward East, we come to River-head, a Town on the Road from London to Tunbridge; and then having little to add to what we have said of Kent, except some pretty Market towns, such as Wrotham, commonly called Rootham, Town malling, &c. I turned North, and came to Bromley, a Market-town, made samous by an Hospital, or College, built there by Dr. John Warner, Lord Bishop of Rochester, for the Relief of 20 poor Widows of loyal and orthodox Clergymen, who are allowed each 201. per Ann. and a Chaplain 501. and it has had many Gists and Chari-

ties bestowed on it since.

Near this Town we turned away by Beckenham, and through Norwood, to Croydon. In the Way we faw Dulwich or Sydenham-wells, where great Crouds of the lower Class of People used to throng every Summer from

from London, to drink the Waters there and at Stretham, and the rather, because it lies so near London, that they can walk to it in the Morning, and return at

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The Green-man, a noted House of good Entertainment at Dulwich, has a Well of the same Waters in great Perfection. An handsome Room is built at one End of the Bowling green, for Breakfasting, Dancing, and Entertainment. A Part of the fashionable Luxury of the present Age; which every Village, for ten Miles round London, has something of: Diversions of no fort of Use, but to bring the Men and Women easily into each other's Company; and so to serve for Markets, as I may, for such young Women as may be asraid of being not enough seen once a Week at Church, or heard sufficiently of, to their Commendation, in Acts of Housewisty at Home: but too often afford Opportunities for Intrigues and Amours, which give the Heart-ach to Parents and Husbands.

The fine Walk through the Wood, over-against the Green man, affords, when at the Top of it, a noble Prospect: but yet it is exceeded from an Hill behind the House at the Right-hand, for the Distinctness as well as Nobleness of it; for here, as from the Centre to the Whole (the Oak of Honour Hill, as it is called, just by you, cloathed very agreeably with Wood), you have in your Eye (in fuch a maaner, that you can distinguish, as if in a Table) the very Houses, as well as Churches, and other public Edifices, from Putneybridge down to Chelfea, and all the adjacent Villages. Westminster, London, Deptford, Greenwich, Black-wall, a confiderable Part of Kent, Effex, and, beyond and over the great Metropolis, Highgate, Hampstead, as far as the Eye can reach. A Prospect so little known too, that it would be furprifing to fay it, did we not account for it by the Fondness which we have for foreign Curiofities, and by the Neglect, which it is a Part of

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an Englishman's Character to have for those much

greater of his own.

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Groydon has a great Corn-market; but chiefly for Oats and Oatmeal for the Service of London. The Town is large, and full of Citizens from London: in it is the antient Palace of the Archbishops of Canterbury, and feveral of them lie buried in the Church here; particularly Archbishop Whitgift, who not only repaired the Palace, but built and endowed the famous Hospital (which is for a Warden, and 28 Men and Wo-

men), and the Free-school.

From hence we passed by Beddington, where is the Seat or Mansion house of the antient Family of the Carews. The House is noble, and the Gardens fine: yet Architects fay, that the two Wings are too deep for the Body of the House; that they should either have been more afunder, or not so long. The Court before them is extremely fine, as is the Canal in the Park before the Court, having a River running through it: the Gardens take up all the flat Part of the Park with Vistas, or Prospects, for two or three Miles. The Orange-trees, which were formerly growing here in the open Ground, are now dead. They had moving Houses to shelter them in the Winter from the Inclemencies of our Climate; but a few Years fince, the Owner was at the Expence of erecting a fine Greenhouse, with Sashes in Front; the Top of the House to take off in Summer: fince which time the Trees have been conflantly decaying; for, flanding as it were in a narrow Alley, between two Walls, when the Top is taken away, the Current of Air is fo great, as to break the Branches, and prevent the Growth of the Trees. They had flood in the Ground above 100 Years, and produced annually great Quantities of Fruit.

From hence it is but a little Mile to Cashalton, a Country Village, fituate among innumerable Springs of Water, which, all together, form a River in the very Street

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Street of the Town, and joining the other Springs, which come from Croydon and Beddington, make one Stream, called the Wandell. This Village, though lying among fuch delightful Springs, is yet upon firm Chalk; and having the Downs adjoining, makes the most agreeable Spot on this Side of London, as is abundantly testified by its being crouded, as it were, with fine Houses of the Citizens of London; some of which are built with fuch a Profusion of Expence, that they look rather like Seats of the Nobility, than the Country-houses of Citizens and Merchants. I cannot dwell on the Description of all the fine Houses in this and the neighbouring Villages: I shall speak of them again in Bulk, with their Neighbours of Mitcham, Stretham. Tooting, Clapham, and others; but I must take a Trip here cross the Downs to Epsom.

Banstead-downs need no Description other than this, that, being so near London, and surrounded, as they are, with pleasant Villages, the Ground smooth, soft, level, and dry (even in but a few Hours after Rain), they conspire to make the most delightful Spot of Ground

of that Kind in all this Part of Britain.

Four Miles over those delicious Downs bring us to Ethom, a well-built, large, and handsome Village, which abounds with fine Houses, the Retreats principally of the London Merchants. It was much frequented a few Years ago, on account of its Mineral Waters, which issue from a rising Ground nearer Ashted than Epsom: but they are now, though not impaired in their Virtues, yet pretty much so in their Reputation; possibly owing, more than any thing else, to the Place being too near London for a Journey for the Quality and Gentry; according to the old Saying, Farfetch'd, and dear bought, is sittest for the Ladies.

The Town, however, for the very Reason that the Waters are less in Repute, to wit, its Vicinity to London, begins to be again resorted to in the Summer, by People of Fortune; and may, perhaps, in the Revolu-

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tions of Vogue and Fashion, or Whimsy, be one Day, once more, a Snewing, or Market place for the Sex, especially as the new Bridge at Westminster is now sinished, which will induce the Gentry, at that End of the Town, to pass over it into Surry, as they may do so without going thro' the whole Length, and dirty, or

hard-paved rattling Streets of London.

There are a great many fine Seats round this Place, which we have not Room to describe: such as the late Lord Baltimore's, Lady Fielding's, Mr. Mitchell's at Cashalton, and many others; also that formerly called Nonsuch, which was once a Royal Palace, and finely situated. King Charles II. gave it to the Duchess of Cleveland, and the sold it to Lord Berkeley, who built a fine Seat with the Materials of it, near Epsom, called Durdans. Nonsuch is now but a Farm-house, and Durdans is in the Possession of the Lord North and Guilford.

From Epsom, that I might thoroughly visit the County of Surry, I rode over stiff Clays, and through very bad Roads, to King stone; from whence I had a fine View of Hampton-court, at a Distance; but that

I referve for another Journey.

King stor is a very old Market-town, remarkable for a Free-school, erected and endowed by Queen Elizabeth; an Alms-house, built in 1670. by Alderman Clever of London, and endowed with Lands of 801. a Year; an House where formerly resided the great Earl of Warwick, surnamed Make-king, besides Coomb, which was likewise his, but afterwards in the Family of the Herveys, and now in the Possession of John Spencer, Esq; from whence the Waters of certain Springs are said to be conveyed in leaden Pipes under the Road, and the Thames, to Hampton-court, three Miles in Length. Several of the old Saxon Kings were not only crowned, but had their actual Residence here; whence it took its Name of King's-town. It

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ment, but that has been long loft.

From hence turning Southward, on the Road to Guilford, we come to Esher, where was formerly a Seat built by Cardinal Wolfey, to which, during his Miniftry, he frequently retired for Amusement. The Gate to this Gothic Building remaining, was turned into a Dwelling-house, purchased by the late Right Hon. Henry Pelham, Efg; who beautified the old Part, and made additional Buildings to it in the fame Gothic Stile, and laid out the Grounds about it in fo elegant a Taste, as makes it one of the finest Seats in the Neighbourhood of London: but the House stands so low, as not to be feen, until you come very near it; and the River Mole, running near the Back of the House, renders it very damp, which greatly diminishes the Pleasure of the Place, though there has been no Cost spared to render it elegant.

Near Esher, on the Left hand of the great Road, lies Claremont, which was a small House, built under an Hill covered with Wood, by the late Sir John Vanbrugh, and purchased by his Grace the Duke of New. caftle, who has been at a great Expence in beautifying the Gardens, &c. and has added to the House a great Extent of Buildings, in the same Stile with the original House; and has also built one large Room, in which his Grace entertains foreign Embassadors, and where all the magnificent Dinners, which the Duke makes in the Country, are ferved up. The House is situated so near the Hill, that the Moisture issuing from thence occasions it to be damp; and the Winds, being reverberated back from the Woods, on the House, cause most of the Chimneys to smoke, so that this is a bad Habitation in Winter: but as it is the Place to which his Grace usually retires from public Business, whenever his Leisure will permit, he has not spared Expence to render it as agreeable as possible; though, as seve-

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ral Persons have had the Contrivance of his Gardens and Buildings, there is not any uniform Taste to be found in either; which is greatly to be regretted, since the noble Owner has been so much intent on having it worthy of himself.

From hence, turning on the Right towards the Thames, we pass Walton and Weybridge, where are several fine Seats; but particularly those of the Earls of

Lincoln and Portmore.

In the first of these is a noble Terrace-walk, elevated so high above the Level of the neighbouring Ground, as to afford a Prospect of the Country, as also a View of the River Thames for some Miles in Extent.

The other Seat was beautified by the Countess of Dorchester, in the Reign of King James II. Here is a fine Walk planted with Acacia-trees, which, at the time of Planting, were esteemed great Curiosities.

But, having mentioned Walton, I must not pass by the public Spirit of Samuel Dicker, Esq; of that Place; who applied to Parliament, in the Session of 1746.7. for Powers to erect a Bridge there, the Act for which passed in 1747. and the Bridge sinished in August

It consists of four Stone Piers, between which are three large Truss-Arches of Beams and Joists of Wood, strongly bound together with Mortices, Iron Pins, and Cramps. Under these three large Arches the Water constantly runs; besides which, there are five other Arches of Brick-work on each Side, to make the Ascent and Descent more easy: but there is seldom Water under any of them, except in great Floods; and four of them on the Middlesex Side are stopt up, being on an high Ground, whither the Floods never reach.

The middle Arch, when viewed by the River-side, affords an agreeable Prospect of the Country, beautifully diversified with Wood and Water, which are seen through it to a considerable Distance. The pro-

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digious Compass of this great Arch, to a Person below. occasions an uncommon Sensation of Awe and Surprize. as it appears like an Overstretch, or an Extreme; and his Wonder and Attention are raised, when he proceeds to take notice, that all the Timbers are in a falling Inclination (there not being discoverable one upright Piece), and confiders also the very small Dimen-

fions of the Piers that support the Whole.

In passing up the Bridge, when you come past the Brick-work, the vacant Interflices between the Timbers yield a Variety of Prospects at every Step, which, when at the Centre, are feen to great Advantage: but tho' each Side of the Road is very well fecured by the Timber and Rails, to the Height of eight Feet; yet, as it affords only a Parapet of wide Lattice work, and the Apertures even with the Eye are large enough to admit the Passage of any Person to go through, provided he climbs, or is lifted up; and as the Water is feen thro' every Opening at a great Depth below; those who are not used to such Views, cannot approach the Side without some little Apprehension.

These Openings between the Braces and Rails might have been eafily closed with Boards: but they are left fo, to admit a free Passage for the Wind and Air, to keep the Timber more found, and that any the least Decay might be at once perceived and re-

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Without doubt it is a noble Work, and well worth the Trouble of vifiting. From this Bridge to Hampton, the fame Gentleman made a new Road, which is kept in good Repair, and renders the Passage to the

Bridge very good at all times.

Near Weybridge is a pleasant small Seat, lately in the Possession of Philip Southcote, Esq; called Wobourn farm. The House is situated low, but is not very damp; and has the Advantage of being screened from the Violence of strong Winds, by tall Trees in the Neighbourhood. In the Front of the House is a small Island, which,

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which, in Summer, is stocked with Sheep, which are constantly feeding in View of the principal Rooms of the House. The Water surrounding this Island is conducted in a serpentine Form. The Fields above the House are kept very neat, being rolled and sed; so that there is a fine Carpet of Grass, the Walks round them being made dry by Gravel, and, on each Side, planted with sweet Shrubs and Flowers, in a rural manner. At the Upper-part of these Fields is a Spot of Ground laid out in Gardens, which, being too regular, do not so well correspond with the other Parts, which are laid out to answer the Name of a Farm very properly: but this Part has something of too much Stiffness and Regularity to agree with the rest.

From this Spot of Ground is a most delightful Prospect over a large Extent of Meadows bounded by the River Thames, which winds in an agreeable manner; and, having frequently large West-country Barges sailing in it, with their broad Sails, they appear as so many moving Objects in a Picture, and greatly enlived

the Profeed.

From hence also are seen 10 or 12 Villages, and several fine Houses; and Chertsey Bridge appears as if it were intended for a principal Object. Indeed the whole Spot may justly be deemed one of the sweetest

Retirements near London.

Keeping the River now on my Left, as I did before on my Right-hand, drawing nearer to London, we came to Ham and Petersham, little Villages; the first, farmous for a pleasant Palace of the late Duke of Lauderdale, close by the River, possessed by the late Earl of Dysart; an House King Charles II. used to be frequently at, and was exceedingly pleased with. The Avenues of this fine House, to the Land-side, lead up to the End of the Village of Petersham, where the Wall of New Park comes also close to the Town, on the other Side; in an Angle of which stood a delicious House, tuilt by the late Earl of Rochester, Lord High Treasurer

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Treasurer in King James II's Reign, as also in Part of Queen Anne's Reign. This fine House was burnt down in the Year 1720. by an accidental Fire, so sudden and surious, that the Family, who were all at home, had scarce time to save their Lives.

Nor was the House, though so exquisitely finished, so beautiful within and without, the greatest Loss su-tained: the rich Furniture, the curious Collection of Paintings, and the inestimable Library of the first Earl of Clarendon, Lord High Chancellor of England, were here wholly consumed; a Loss irreparable, as the latter contained, among other valuable Things, several Manuscripts relating to those Times, and to Things transacted by himself, and by the King his Master, both at Home and Abroad, besides other rare and curious Collections made by that noble and learned Author in foreign Countries.

The Offices escaped the Fate the Houses met with: and on the same Spot of Ground, where the House stood, the late Earl of Harrington erected another, after a Design of the Earl of Burlington; and when I have said this, I need not say it is equally a convenient and elegant Edifice. The Front indeed, next the Court, has not a very striking Appearance, being very plain, and the Entrance into the House not greatly to be praised: but the South Front next the Garden, tho very plain, yet is bold and regular. The Apartments next the Garden, which are chiefly designed for State,

are also elegant, and beautifully fimilied.

The Gardens, which before were crouded with Plantations near the House, are now laid open in Lawns of Grass; and the Kitchen-garden, which was situated on the East-side of the House, is removed out of Sight, and that Ground is now converted into an open Slope of Grass, which leads up to a Terrace of great Length; from whence is a Prospect of the River Thames, the Town of Twickenham, and all the beautiful Seats round about that Part of the Country, almost

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to King flon-bridge. On the other Side of the Terrace, on a rifing Ground, is a large Plantation of Wood; and on the Summit of the Hill, is erected a fine Pleasure-house, which commands a Prospect of the Country every Way, for many Miles: so that by Foreigners this View is esteemed the most beautiful of any near London.

From hence we came to Richmond, lately the delightful Retreat of his late Majesty and his Royal Consort the Queen, who took great Pleasure therein to the Time of her Death; and made not only noble Improvements and Alterations there, but purchased several fine Houses on Kew green; as that of Lady Eyre, for his Royal Highness the Duke; that of Sir Thomas Abney for the Princesses; and his late Royal Highness Prince Frede. ric, mean while, made confiderable Improvements in the fine House and Gardens belonging formerly to the Lady Capel; while her Majesty used to divert herself at her Royal Dairy-house, and in her Hermitage, Merlin's Cave, and other charming Improvements, which the made in the Park and Gardens of this delightful Place: all which are so well known, that we need not infift upon them; nor on the noble Prospect which Richmond-Hill affords.

The Court, being so near, must needs have filled Richmond, which was before a most agreeable Retreat for the First and Second-rate Gentry, with a great deal of the best Company in England. And indeed this Town, and the Country all round it, have much in-

creased in Buildings lately.

Here is an Alms-house, built by Duppa, Bishop of Winchester, in the Reign of Charles II. pursuant to a Vow he made in that King's Exile, for the Support of 10 poor Widows. Here is also another Alms-house, endowed with above 100 l. a Year, which has, since its Foundation, been considerably increased by John Mitchel, Esq.: Here are also two Charity-schools, one for 50 Boys, the other for 50 Girls.

The

The Lord Viscount Palmerston, the worthy Son and Successor to the Honour and Estate of the great Sir William Temple, has a fine Seat and Gardens (hard by) at Sheen. The Gardens were finished, as well as contrived, by the great Genius of Sir William; and as they were his last Delight in Life, so they were every way suited to be so, to a Man of his Sense and Capacity, who knew what kind of Life was best fitted to make a Man's last Days happy.

Rochampton deserves to be particularly mentioned, as it is one of the pleasantest Villages near London, having many fine Houses of Merchants, which are properly scattered about, so as not to appear like a Street or Town; which is too much the Fault of most other

Villages.

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The Bowling green House at Putney is pleasantly situated, and affords a fine Prospect. It is now turned into one of those sashionable Summer Breakfasting-places, which level all Distinction, and mingle the Sexes together in Company; and already seem, with the Assembly-rooms, that have for many Years been set up in all Places of genteel Resort, to have gone a great Way in giving Licentiousness to the one Sex, and in enabling the other to throw aside that decent Reserve and Bashfulness, which were wont to be thought, by our Foresathers, the greatest Graces of the charming Sex.

Several fine Houses are very lately built, as I may fay, on the Brow of the Heath, overlooking the River

Thames, which delight the Eye.

At Peckham is the Seat of the late Lord Trevor; which was built in the Reign of King James II. by Sir Thomas Bond, who was deeply engaged with that unfortunate Prince in his Schemes; and being obliged to quit the Kingdom with him, the House was plundered by the Populace, and became a Forseit to the Crown. In the Building, and the Grounds, large Sums of Money

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were expended; for the Whole was executed accord-

ing to the politest Taste of those Times.

A private Gentlemen purchased this Seat soon after the Death of the late Lord Trever; and had begun to make great Alterations, particularly in cutting down Hedges, and removing Walls and Buildings, which intercepted the Prospect of the neighbouring Fields; so that, had the Gentleman lived a few Years longer, he would have intirely altered it to the modern Taste of Gardening, and rendered it a sweet Retirement.

It is not easy to describe the Beauty with which the Banks of the Thames shine on either Side of the River, from Richmond to London, much more than our Ancestors, even but one Age ago, knew any thing of. If for pleasant Villages, great Houses, Palaces, Gardens, &c. it was true in Queen Elizabeth's Time, according to the Poet, that

## The Thames with Royal Tyber may compare;

What may be faid of it now? when, for one fine House to be seen then, there are, for aught I know, 100, even as you sit in a Boat, and pass up and down the River.

First, beginning from Ham-bouse, as above, Richmond Palace salutes the Eye, being formerly no more than a Lodge in the Park, but now makes a Royal

Figure.

From Richmond to London the River-sides abound with Villages, and those Villages so full of beautiful Buildings, charming Gardens, and rich Habitations of People of Quality, that nothing can equal it; no, not the Country for 20 Miles round Paris, tho' that indeed is a kind of Prodigy.

It is impossible in one Journey to describe effectually this Part of the County of Surry, lying from King stone to Landon and Greenwich, where I set out; I must

therefore quit the ample Subject, and come to

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Southwark, a Suburb to, rather than a Part of London; though it returns two Members to Parliament: and of which this may be faid with Justice, that it would be

## A Royal City, were not London by.

To give you a brief Description of Southwark, it might be called a long Street, of about nine Miles in Length, as it is now built on Eastward; reaching from Vaux-hall to London-bridge, and from the Bridge to Deptford, and up to Deptford bridge, which parts it from Greenwich, all the Way winding and turning as the River does; except only in that Part, which reaches from Cuckold's-point to Deptford, which winds fomewhat more than the River.

In the Centre, which is opposite to the Bridge, it is thickened with Buildings, and may be reckoned near a Mile broad; viz., from the Bridge to the End of Kent street and Blackman street, and about the Mint.

The Borough of Southwark is exceeding populous. Take it as it was antiently bounded, it contained nine Parishes; but as it is now extended, and joins with

Deptford, it contains eleven large Parishes.

A further Description of Southwark I defer till I come to speak of London, as one general Appellation for the two Cities of London and Westminster; for all the Borough of Southwark, and all the Buildings and Villages included within the Bills of Mortality, make but one LONDON, in the general Appellation.

Iam, &c.

## LETTER V.

Containing a Description of Part of the County of MIDDLESEX, Part of HANTS, and the County of WILTS, &c.

SIR,

S I came down from Kingston, in my last Circuit, by the South Bank of the Thames, on the Surry Side of the River; I now go up to Hampton-court, on the North Bank, and on the Middlesex Side; which I mention, because, as the Sides of the Country bordering on the River lie parallel, so the Beauty of the Country, the pleafant Situations, the Splendor of innumerable fine Buildings, Noblemens and Gentlemens Houses and Citizens Retreats, are so equal a Match to what I had described on the other Side, that one knows not to which to give the Preference: but as I must speak of them again, when I come to write of the County of Middlesex, which I have now purposely omitted; I pass them over here, except the Palace of Hampton only, which I mentioned in Middlefex, for the Reasons above.

Hampton-court lies on the North Bank of the River Thames, about two finall Miles from King ston. It was built by Cardinal Wolfey, and fell to the Crown, when the King seized his Effects and Estate, as did also Whiteball, another House of the Cardinal's building.

Whoever knew Hampton court before it was begun to be rebuilt, or altered, by the late King William, must acknowlege, it was a very complete Palace then, and fit for a King; and though it might not, according to the modern Method of Building, pass for a

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Thing exquifitely fine, yet it shewed a Situation exceedingly capable of Improvement, and of being made one

of the most delightful Palaces in Europe.

This her Majesty Queen Mary was so sensible of, that while the King had ordered the pulling down the old Apartments, and building them up in that most beautiful Form, in which we see them now appear, her Majesty, impatient of enjoying so agreeable a Retreat. fixed upon a Building, formerly made use of, chiefly for landing from the River, and therefore called the Watergallery. Here she ordered all the little, neat, curious. Things to be done, which fuited her own Conveniency; and made it the pleasantest little Palace within Doors, that could possibly be made; though its Situation would not allow it to stand after the great Building was finished.

The Queen had here her Gallery of Beauties, being the Pictures, at full Length, of the principal Ladies in her Retinue. Her Majesty's Apartments, for her private Retreat only, were exquisitely furnished; and there were among the Furniture several curious Pieces

of her own Work.

The Ground on the South-west Side of the Building has received many Alterations fince the pulling down of the Water-gallery (which stood before this handsome Front of the House, and intercepted the Prospect of it This Spot was then laid out into from the River). small Inclosures, surfounded with tall Hedges, to break the Violence of the Winds, and render them proper for the Reception of fuch Exotic Plants in Summer, as were moved out of the Conservatories during that Seafon. In each of these Places is contrived a Bason. which is constantly supplied with Water for the Support of these Plants in dry Weather; and as these are fituated near the great Apartments, most of the Plants may be viewed from the Windows: and the lower Part of the House, under the great Apartments, being contrived for a Green-house, the Plants need not be carried carried far, when they are removed out of or into the Conservatory; which was very properly contrived by

the Defigners.

At the West-end of this Spot was a large Hot-house, for the maintaining such tender Exotic Plants, as require Warmth to preserve them in this Climate. Of all these Parts of Gardening Queen Mary was so very fond, that the allowed an handsome Salary to Dr. Plukenett, a learned Botanist, for overlooking and registering the curious Collection of Plants, which were then in that Garden; but, fince the Death of that Queen, these things have been so much neglected, that very few of the most curious Plants are now in being there; which is much to be lamented; for, however the Tafte for this Part of Gardening may have with Reason been neglected by private Persons, yet, surely, at a Royal Palace, all these things should be kept up in the utmost Magnificence, as an Encouragement to Ingenuity, and for the Honour of the Kingdom. Taste was, by Lewis XIV. of France, carried to a great Height; and had the Persons employed by that Prince been so well acquainted with the Construction of these Conservatories, as many of the English are at this Day, we might have expected, in his Gardens, to have feen most of the curious Plants in the known Parts of the World.

Here stand advanced, on two Pedestals of Stone, two Marble Vases, or Flower-pots, of exquisite Workmanship; the one done by the samous Statuary Mr. Cibber, as I am informed, and the other by a Foreigner. It is hard to say, which of the two is the best Performance, though the doing of it was a kind of Trial of Skill between them; but it gives us room, without any Partiality, to say, they were both Masters of their Art.

The Parterre on that Side descends from the Terrace-walk by Steps; and on the Lest a Terrace goes down

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down the Water-fide, overlooking the Garden on the

Eastward Front, and affords a fine Prospect.

This Part of the Garden was at first laid out in a Parterre of Scroll-work in Box, which was not only very costly at first making, but was also very expensive in keeping constantly clipped; which, together with the ill Scent, which frequently reached to the Royal Apartments, occasioned its being demolished, and the Ground disposed into another Form. And if at the same time all the shorn ever-green Trees had been thrown out, and a finer Disposition made of the Ground, it would have much better corresponded with the noble Apartments which overlook it, than it does at present.

On the North-side of the House, where the Chapel, and some Part of the old Buildings, required to be covered from View, the Ground was laid out in a Wilderness, with a Labyrinth surrounded by high Espalier Hedges; and this was, at that time, thought one of the finest disposed Parts of the Garden. But as the whole Contrivance of the Plantations is in regular strait Walks, to every Person of Taste, it must be very far from affording any Pleasure, since nothing can be more disagreeable than to be immured between Hedges, so as to have the Eye confined to a strait Walk, and the Beauty of the Trees growing in the Quarters intirely secluded from Sight.

As this Wilderness lies opposite to Bushy park, there was designed a grand Entrance through it to the Palace, fronting the Gates of the Park; where two large Piers were erected, to support a magnificent Iron Gate, which was designed to have been put up there; but how it came to be left unfinished, and the pitiful low Gates (which by no means correspond with the

Pillars) put in the Place, I could never learn.

The Palace within is by much the noblest of any of the Royal Houses, and the State-Apartments, and their Conveniences, are laid out with great Judgment.

King

King William brought into England, and plac'd here in a Gallery, built purposely for them, the samous Cartoons, as they are called; which are seven Pieces of such Paintings as are not to be matched in Europe. It is reported, that the late French King offered 100,000 Louis d'Ors for these Pictures.

There were, in all, 12 of these Drawings; two the King of France has, and two the King of Sardinia: the other was in the Possession of a private Gentleman in England, who pledged it for a Sum of Money. And when the Person who lent the Money sound it was to be redeemed (which he was very unwilling it should be), he damaged the Drawing very much; so that the Gentleman brought his Action, and it was tried in Westminster-hall: in which Trial the Picture was produced; and I saw it. The Subject was Herod's Cruelty; and really the Cruelty of the Person sued, towards the Picture, seems to be owing to Principles equally diabolical, and, if possible, more inexcusable, as to the Motive, than those of Herod.

The King brought a great many other fine Pieces to England; and from him the Love of fine Paintings so universally spread itself among the Nobility and Persons of Figure all over the Kingdom, that it is incredible, what Collections have been made by English Gentlemen since that time; and how all Europe has been romaged, as we may say, for Pictures to bring over

hither.

Queen Mary lived not to see this Palace completely finished; and, it is said, King William designed to have made it more capacious and noble, had he lived.

After the Death of King William, Hampton-court feemed in a manner neglected. It is an Observation made by some, that Hampton-court has, ever since the Time of King Charles I. been favoured by every alternate Prince. King Charles I. delighting in Country Retirements, took great Pleasure here; and, had he lived.

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lived, had purposed to improve it considerably; but it

became at last one of his Prisons.

King Charles II. may well be faid to have a Dislike to the Place, for the Treatment his Royal Father met with there; and particularly as Cromwell afterwards made it his Summer-Residence. He therefore chose Windsor, and bestowed a vast Sum in beautifying the Castle there, which brought it to the Persection we see it in at this Day, some sew Alterations excepted, made in the Time of King William.

King James took but little Delight in retired Palaces. But King William fixed upon Hampton-court, and im-

proved it, as before mentioned.

Queen Anne, being taken up, for one Part of her Reign, in her kind Regards to the Prince her Spouse, was obliged to consult his Health, and reside where that confined him; which, for the most Part, was at Kensington, where he died: but her Majesty always discovered her Delight in Windsor, where she chose the little House, as it was called, opposite to the Castle, and frequently took the Air in her Chaise in the Parks and Forest.

In the Reign of King George I. Hampton-court came into Request. But his late Majesty was but seldom there.

I ought not to omit the Mention of the Battles of Alexander, wrought in fine Brussels Tapestry, and put up at this Palace a few Years ago; which are well worth the Observation of the Curious.

From Hampton court, I directed my Course for a Journey into the South-west Part of England; and, to take up my Beginning where I concluded my last, I crossed to Chertsey on the Thames, from whence I crossed the Black Desart of Bagshot, in my Way to Hampshire.

I fell down towards Basing stoke, which is situate in the midst of Woods, and rich sertile Pastures: the Coun-

Country round about is spread with the Houses of the Nobility and Gentry. A little before we came to the Town, we passed by a House built out of the Ruins, and on the Site, of Old Basing-house, a samous Fortress in the Time of the Civil Wars, belonging to the then Marquis of Winchester, Ancestor of the Duke of Bolton.

This House, garison'd by a resolute Band of old Soldiers, under the Command of the Marquis, was a great Curb to the Parliament-Party throughout that whole War; till, after a vigorous Defence, it was taken, and the brave Marquis in it, by Cromwell, who, in Revenge for the obstinate Resistance it made, put almost all the Garison to the Sword, and burnt down the noble Fabric to the Ground, which, he faid, was fitter for the Refidence of an Emperor than a Subject. The present House is in no-wise equal to the Magnificence which Fame gives to the antient House; whose Strength of Building was fuch as to refift the Battery of Cannon in feveral Attacks. It is incredible what Booty the Garison of this Place picked up, lying, as they did, just on the great Western Road, where they intercepted the Carriers, plundered the Waggons, and fuffered nothing to pass, to the great Interruption of the Trade of the City of London.

Basing stoke is a large and populous Town: it is a Mayor-town, with a Recorder, seven Aldermen, seven capital Burgesses, and near the Church is a Free-school. It has a good Market for Corn, especially Barley, as there are a great many Maltsters there. Some sew Years ago, a Manusacture of making Druggets and Shalloons was set up here, and successfully carried on, which employs a great Number of poor People.

Near this Town a bloody Battle was fought in 871.

between the Saxons and Danes,

From this Town the great Western Road goes on to Whitchurch, a mean Town, which however has a Market,

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Market, is governed by a Mayor, and returns two Members to Parliament.

Near this Town is a fine Seat of the Earl of Portsmouth; to which belongs a very large Park, beautified with Wood and Water; and the Irregularity of the Ground (it having many rifing Hills in it) renders the Prospects very agreeable.

North-east of Whitchurch lies Kingsclere, a pleasant Market-town on the Oxford Road from Basing stoke. It was antiently famous for having been the Seat of the Saxon Kings, and from thence takes its Name.

But I had like to have forgot the famous Vindomia, or Silchester, which is fituated in Hants, on the Borders of Berkshire, and noted for its Antiquity.

Its Situation is high, hid with Wood. Many were the Roman Roads which met here, though now there is scarce any that leads to it; which is one Reason why it is so little known: another is, its Want of Inns for the Accommodation of Travelers; for Aldermaston, a pretty neat Village, beautifully fituated, which is three Miles diffant, is the nearest Town where Lodging is to be found. The Walls of this City are standing, more or less perfect, quite round; perhaps the most intire in the Roman Empire, especially the North-side, which is a most agreeable Sight. It is composed of Flint and Rag stone. There was a broad Ditch quite round, now almost impassable, and full of Springs. Here-and-there Roman Bricks are left in the Walls. Though on the Outfide they are of a confiderable Height, yet the Ground within is so raised, as nearly to be equal to the Top, and that covered quite round with Oaks, and other Timber-trees, of no mean Bulk, Constantius, the Son of Constantine the Great, is said to have built it, and fowed Corn in the Track of the Walls, as an Omen of their Perpetuity. Now indeed the whole City is arable, and in the Fields Roman Bricks, and other Reliques, are scattered, and Coins

daily found. It has only one Farm-house, and a Church. The Reverend and Learned Mr. Betham, late Minister of this Place, is buried under the North Wall of the Chancel without-side; within is another Monument of a Person of Quality. They both were drowned in Fleet-ditck. A Spring rises from under the

Wall of the Church-yard.

Five hundred Feet without the City, on the Northeast Side, is a great Curiosity, which the Vulgar think was a Castle, but in reality an Amphitheatre, in all respects like that of Dorchester. This noble Piece of Antiquity has from Time immemorial been a Yard for Cattle, and a Watering-pond; so that it is a Wonder their Trampling has not defaced it much more than it has.

My Resolution being to take in my way what I had passed by before, I was obliged to go off to the Lest-

hand, to Alresford and Winchester.

Alresford was a flourishing Market-town, and tho' it had no great Trade, and very little, if any, Manufactures, yet, what is very remarkable, there was no Collection made in the Town for the Poor, nor any

low enough to take Alms of the Parish.

But this happy Circumstance, which so distinguished Alresford from all her Neighbours, was brought to an End in 1710. when, by a sudden and surprising Fire, the whole Town, with both the Church and Markethouse, was reduced to an Heap of Rubbish; and, except a sew poor Huts at the remotest Ends of the Town, not an House lest standing. This Town is since very handsomely rebuilt, and the neighbouring Gentlemen contributed largely to the Relief of the People, especially by sending in Timber towards their building.

Here is a very large Pond, or Lake of Water, kept up to an Head by a strong Battre d'eau, or Dam, which, it is said, was made by the Romans; and is Part of the great Roman Highway, which leads from

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Winchester to Alton, and, as supposed, on to London; though we no-where see any Remains of it, except between Winchester and Alton, and chiefly between this Town and the last-mentioned.

Near this Town, a little North-west, the Duke of Bolton has another Seat, which, though not large, is a handsome beautiful Palace, and the Gardens not only very exact, but finely situate, the Prospect and Vistas

noble and great, and the Whole well kept.

From hence, at the End of feven Miles over the Downs, we come to the very antient City of Winchester. called by the Romans Ventæ Belgarum, and in British. Caer Gwent, which fignifies the white Town, from the chalky Hills near it. Not only the great Church, which is famous all over Europe, but even the whole City, has, at a Distance, a venerable and antient Face; and yet here are many modern Buildings, and some very handsome; as the College Schools, with the Episcopal Palace, built by Bishop Morley, since the Civil Wars; the old Palace of the Bishop having been ruined by that known Church-Incendiary, Sir William Waller, and his Crew of Plunderers; who, if my Information is not wrong, destroyed more Monuments of the Dead, and defaced more Churches, than all the Round-heads in England beside.

The Shire-hall within the Castle was built like an old Chapel, with a Body supported by Pillars, and in it two Ailes. Over the Court of Nist Prius, above the Judge's Seat, is fixed against the Wall King Arthur's Round-table, with the Names of the Knights upon it.

As to the Tale of this round Table, and King Arthur's 24 Knights, which Table, being one Piece of Wood, they still shew hanging up in the Townhall, said to be Part of the said Castle, as a Piece of Antiquity of 1200 Years standing, and has, as they pretend, the Names of the said Knights in Saxon Characters, and yet such as no Man can read; there is no Ground to give the least Credit to it; for it plainly appears to be of a later Date, as our Camden observes.

The

This Church, and the Schools also, are accurately described by several Writers, especially by the Monasticom, where their Antiquity and Original is sully set forth: the Outside of the Church is plain. There is not (except one at the West-end) either Statue, or Niche for Statue, to be seen on the Outside.

The North Front is most injudiciously hid by an

high Wall.

The Tower is carried up but a very little Height above the Roof; feemingly not more than 25 Feet; and has no proper Finishing; but is covered in, as if the Building had been left off; which, very probably, might be the Case; for there is Strength enough below, to support a Steeple higher than that of Salis-

bury.

When one enters at the West Door, under the middle Aile, and takes a View of it, it has a very venerable and majestic Appearance. About 300 Feet from the Door, is a low Screen, which parts the Choir from the Nave, but does not intercept the View to the Eastend; the Organ being fixed on one Side the Choir, under the middle Aile of the North Cross, or Transept.

The Vaulting of the Roof is beautiful. But, looking on each Side, one is offended with the massy Pillars, whose Diameters are as much too thick for the Spaces of the Arches, as those at Salisbury are too

flender.

Another great Deformity is the Inclosure of the Tomb of William of Wickham, which, being very high, and erected between two of the Pillars of the Aile on the South-fide, projects confiderably, on both Sides, beyond the Line of those Pillars; and so renders those Vistas irregular.

The Entrance into the Choir is by a noble Flight of Steps, the whole Breadth of the middle Aile. The

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Screen is a fine Piece of Architecture, of the Composite Order. On each Side of the great Arch of the Entrance are two Recesses, enriched with Entablatures and Compass Pediments: wherein are placed the Statues of the Kings James and Charles the First, finely cast in Copper.

This Screen was defigned by Inigo Jones; but, tho' exceeding beautiful, yet, I think, to join Roman with Gothic Architecture, is a Solecism. One would imagine, that Inigo's Pride would not deign to let him give into Gothic Building; for in repairing Part of old Paul's, he, as far as was practicable, Romaniz'd that Building; though Sir Christopher Wren, whose Name is very great, would perhaps have done otherwise. Sir Christopher was not so stiff, as to lay down for a Rule, that every Edifice was to be despised, which was not copied from the Buildings of Greece and Italy: himself has given noble Specimens, what the Force of Genius can do, besides imitating.

The Cross, from North to South, is quite shut out of the Choir by wooden Partitions carried up a vast Height: this, which is the antientest Part of the Church, is by much the plainest; and the Vaulting being left unfinished, all the Timbers of the Roof

are exposed to View.

The Stile of Building in this Part is greatly different from the East and West Part: the Arches are turned semicircular, and the Pillars are of another Form, and have a nearer Resemblance of one of the five Orders: and this Kind of Building is what Sir Christopher Wren describes to be the true Gothic Building; and all Buildings with peaked Arches, he says, should properly be called Saracen, and not Gothic, Buildings, the Saracens being the Inventors of it; and Sir Christopher, in his Treatise concerning Westminster-Abbey, gives Reasons very conclusive for his Opinion.

The Stalls in the Choir are of fine Gothic Workmanship manship: to which the Bishop's Throne, erected at the Expence of Bishop Mew, would have been a great additional Ornament, had it been Gothic, and of a Piece with the rest of the Choir.

The Stone Screen, where the high Altar is placed, is an exceeding fine and tender Piece of Gothic Work: but, in the Angles of the Niches, where formerly were Images, the raifed Panels have been chipt away, to make room for fixing a Parcel of forry Urns, or Vases, which disgrace this fine Piece, and make it mere Botchery.

Having heard the Altar much praised, I viewed it

with Attention.

If by the Altar is meant the Wood-work erected by Bishop Morley, I own, I saw nothing in that Piece to be admired. It projects over the Communion-table like a Canopy, and is coved underneath to the Front. At the Extremity of the Front hangtwo large Festoons: they are gilt, as are likewise all the Carvings and Mouldings: but this Piece is rather mean than grand or striking. The Badness of the painted Decorations around the Commandments, and the Writings of them, are a Disgrace to the Church; and really, upon the Whole, this Altar is not comparable to that in the great Church at St. Albans.

Within this Church are many things worthy of Obfervation. It was, for some Ages, the Burying-place of many English, Saxon, and Norman Kings; whose Remains the impious Soldiers, in the Civil Wars, threw against the painted Glass. The Reliques of some of these, at the Repair of the Church, were collected by Bishop Fox; and, being put together into six large wooden Chests, lin'd with Lead, were placed on the great Wall in the Choir, three on one Side, and three on the other; with an Account whose Bones are in each Chest; viz. Eghert, Adulphus, Edredus, Edmundus, Canutus, and those of Queen Emma. The Inferiptions upon the first sour are as follow, in antient

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Egbertus Rex obijt Anno Domini 835, Hic Rex Egbertus pausat cum Rege Kenulpho, Nobis egregia munera uterque tulit.

II.

Adulphus Rex obijt 859.
Ringilshi in cista hac simul ossa jacent & Adulphi
Ipsus fundator, hic benefactor erat.
III.

Edredus Rex obijt 955.

Hoc pius in tumulo Rex Edredus requiescit,

Qui has Britonum terras rexerat egregie.

IV.

Edmund Rex obijt A. D.—
Quem theca hæc retinet Edmundum suscipe, Christe,
Qui vivente patre regia septra tulit.

A great many Persons of Rank are buried in this Church, besides the Saxon Kings mentioned above: particularly, here lies, as they told us, under a grey Marble, Lucius, the first Christian King of this Island, who died 180 Years after Christ; and, as is pretended, sounded a Church where the Cathedral now stands.

The Tomb stone of William Rufus is in the midst of the Choir; his Bones are in a Chest of Wood, which stands on the Top of the Septum, which parts the Choir and the side Ailes.

A Tomb stone, on which is this Inscription; Intus est cor Nicolai, olim Wintonien. Episi. cujus corpus est apud Waverly.

A Monument with this Inscription; Intus est corpus Richardi Willhelmi conquestoris filij & Beorniæ ducis.

Bishop Fox's Monument, and Bishop Gardiner's, with his Effigies as a Skeleton on it: Bishop Fox altered the Roof of the Choir, and was a great Benefactor to the Church; he lies buried under his Chapel (which they call his Study), a little Room behind the Vol. I.

Altar.

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Altar. Over the Altar is this Inscription; O facrum Convivium, in quo Christus sumitur! The Roof of the e Choir, over the Altar, is beautified with the History of the Passion represented in carved Work.

In the Space behind the Choir are two stately Monuments, one for Cardinal Beaufort, Brother to King Henry IV. who founded the Hospital of St. Cross; another for Bishop Wainstete, Founder of Magdalen College in the same University.

The Monument of William of Wickham, mentioned

above, Founder of New College in Oxford.

Of each of which Monuments and the Persons, a few Particulars.

The Tomb of William of Wickham is very spacious, lofty, and magnificent. It is erected in a little Chapel in the Body of the Church. There are these Verses about it:

Milhelmus diaus Alpkeham jacet hic nece victus; Idius ecclesiae praesul, reparabit eamque. Largus erat, dapser; probat hoc cum divite pauper: Confilius pariter regni fuerat bene dexter. Kunc docet esse pium fundatio Collegiorum: Adroniae primum stat, Alintoniaeque secundum fugiter oratis, tumulum quocunque videtis, Pro tantis meritis ut sit sibi vita perennis.

That of Cardinal Beaufort, who was Brother of King Henry IV. was exceeding rich, and curiously wrought; and the Design is beautiful: but we are to observe, that, in the time of Henry VI. Gothic Architecture was brought to its greatest Perfection. He is dressed in his Cardinal's Robes, and Hat; and, if the Figure, which represents him, be like, he must have been a very comely Man. The Tomb of Bishop Wainsteet is on the other Side of the middle Aile, behind the high Altar, directly opposite to Beaufort's, and is built after

its. Hants. rum that Model, with very little Variation : he is representthe ed lying at Length, with an Heart in his Hand. Magory dalen College in Oxford, in Regard to the Memory of this Bishop, keeps his Monument in Repair; and, a VIOfew Years ago, beautified it. Bishop Fox's Monuing ment is very noble: nor is Bishop Gardiner's much inofs; ferior to it; but the Populace, in Queen Elizabeth's alen time, to shew their Detestation of his Memory, maimed and defaced the Figure, which was made to represent ned him as lying in his Coffin. But, at this Distance of Time, he is allowed to have been, though not a good s, a Man, yet one of the most learned and able Men of the Age he lived in. ous,

It may not be amiss to say a Word or two more of the famous William of Wickbam, who built the Body

of the Church; and also of Bishop Wainfleet.

The former was a Courtier before a Bishop; and tho' he had no large Share of Learning, he was a great Promoter of it: his natural Genius was much beyond his acquired Parts, and his Skill in Politics beyond his Ecclefiaftic Knowlege. He is faid to have put his Mafter, King Edward III. whose Minister and Lord High Chancellor he was, upon the two great Projects which made his Reign fo glorious; viz. 1. Upon fetting up his Claim to the Crown of France, which brought on the War with France, in which that Prince was three times victorious in Battle. 2. Upon instituting the Order of the Garter; in which he obtained the Honour for the Bishops of Winchester to be always Prelates of the Order, as an Appendix to the Bishoprick; and he himself was the first: The Ensigns of that Honour are joined with his Episcopal Ornaments, in the Robing of his Effigies on the Monument described above.

To the great Honour of this Bishop, there are, befides New College, other Foundations of his, as much to his Fame as that of this Church; but particularly the

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College in this City, which is a truly noble Foundation. The Building confifts of two large Courts, in which are the Lodgings for the Masters and 70 Scholars, and in the Centre a very elegant Chapel; beyond that, in the second Court, are the Schools, with a large Cloister beyond them, and some Inclosures laid open for the Diversion of the Scholars. There is also a great Hall, where the Scholars dine. In the Chapelwindow belonging to the College, is good painted Glass of Imagery. In the Middle of the Cloisters is the Library, a strong Stone Building, well contrived to prevent Fire.

The Scholars have Exhibitions after a certain Time of Continuance here, if they please to study, in New College, Oxford, built, as I have observed, by the same

noble Benefactor.

This School has fully answered the End of the Founder, who was resolved to erect an House for making the Ages to come more learned than those that went before; and many learned and great Men have been educated here.

This Bishop likewise repaired, at his own Expence, the Road from Winchester to his Palace in Southwork.

With regard to Bishop Wainsteet, it is delivered down to us, as an undoubted Fact, that he proposed to the Heads of New College, to enlarge their Endowment to double what it was before, provided the Members of that Body would pray for his Soul jointly with that of William of Wickham. But their Veneration for the Memory of their first Founder was so great, that, upon considering the Proposal, they judged, that the complying with it would be derogatory to his Honour; and therefore resused this Offer. After this, Bishop Wainsteet endowed Magdalen College; whose annual Revenues arising by that Endowment, and its Augmentations since, amount to a great Sum.

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Here is also Bishop Langton's Chapel of curious carved Wood-work, and therein his Tomb.

Lord Weston's Tomb, his Statue in Brass on it; Bishop Edington's; Dean Mason's, who was also a

Knight.

Behind the Altar, under a very fine Monument, lies the Earl of Portland, Lord High Treasurer of England in the Reign of King Charles I. His Effigy is in Copper Armour, at full Length, with his Head raised on three Cushions of the same; and is a very magnificent Work.

The Monument of Dr. Willis, Bishop of this See in the Reign of the late Queen Anne, is in the South Aile, a little above Wickham's: he is represented in his Episcopal Habit, upon a Sarcophagus. It is a very

handsome Design, and well executed.

In digging the Foundation of an House near the College, in a Stone Cossin, was found a Stone set in a Gold Ring, with this Inscription in very odd Characters, supposed to be about the sixth Century, Domino Comite, sidele mee: i. e. The Lord being my Guide and

faithful Companion.

Upon the Wall behind the Altar stood several Statues of Saxon Kings and Bishops, who had been buried in that Part of the Church, with these Inscriptions under them. Kenedelsus Rex, S. Bitinus Epc. Egbertus Rex, Adulphus Rex, Eluredus Rex, silius ejus, Edward dus Rex, sen. Kinewaldus Rex, Ethelstanus Rex, silius ejus, SCA Maria, Dominus Jesus, Edredus Rex, Edgarus Rex, Emma Regina, Alwidus Epc. Ethelredus Rex, SCS Edwardus Rex, filius ejus, Cnutus Rex, Hardecnutus Rex, filius ejus.

Under the forementioned Saxon Kings is this Di-flich:

Corpora Sanctorum funt hic in pace sepulta, Ex meritis quorum fulgent Miracula multa.

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Here is likewise King Hardeknute's Tomb, whereon is this Distich:

Qui jacet hic regni Sceptra tulit Hardecanutus, Emmæ ac Cnutonis natus & ipse fuit.

On another Tomb-stone are these Verses:

Corpus Ethelmari cujus nunc Cor tenet istud Saxum, Parisiis morte datur tumulo.

His Heart was faid to be found in an Ewer.

On a Tomb-stone in the Choir is this Inscription:

Præsulis egregij pausant hic membra Richardi Fociuns, cui summi gaudia sunto poli.

Here is also the Monument of William de Basing, Prior of this Church.

At the East End of this Church is our Lady's Chapel (as it is there called), in which they have their Morning Six o'Clock Prayers. King Philip and Queen Mary were married here; where Queen Mary's Chair is still preserved. This Chapel was built by two Priors, Silksteed and Hunton; there are half Rebus's for their Names carved on the Roof.

On either Side of the Entrance into the Choir, are the Statues in Brass of King James I. and King

Charles I.

Over the Door of the School stands a very good Statue of the Founder, made by Mr. Cibber, whose Workmanship are the two excellent Figures over Betblehem-gate, in London. He was the Father of the

late Calley Cibber, Efg; Poet-Laureat.

The Clergy here live very elegantly in the Close belonging to the Cathedral; where, besides the Bishop's Palace, mentioned above, are very good Houses, handsomely built, for the Prebendaries, Canons, and other Dignitaries of this Church. The Deanry is a very ants. ereon

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very pleafant Dwelling, the Gardens are large, and the River runs through them; but the Floods in Winter fometimes much incommode them.

As the City stands in a Vale on the Bank, and at the Conjunction of two small Rivers, so the Country rifing every Way, but just as the Course of the Water keeps the Valley open, you must necessarily, as you go out of the Gates, go up Hill every Way: but when once ascended, you come to the most charming Plains, and most pleasant Country of that Kind in England; which continues, with very small Intersections of Rivers and Valleys, for above 50 Miles.

Here lived Constans, the Monk, who was made Cafar, and afterwards Emperor, by his Father Constantine; and who usurped the Government in Oppofition to Honorius.

At the South-fide of the West Gate of this City, was antiently a Castle, in which, it is said, the Saxon Kings kept their Court; which however is doubtful, and must be meant of the West-Saxons only. This Cattle had been often besieged; particularly once by King Stephen, with his implacable Enemy the Empress Maud in it; and that fo closely, that the Empress caused a Report of her Death to be spread; and, being put into a Coffin, was carried out as a Corpse, and so she escaped.

In the Place where this Caftle stood, the late King Charles II. began a very noble Design of a Royal Palace, which, had he lived, and finished it, would certainly have made that Part of the Country the Refort of the Quality and Gentry of all Parts of the Kingdom; for the Country hereabouts far exceeds that of Newmarket-heath for all kinds of Sport and Diversion.

The Foundation was laid March 23. 1683. (in the Digging for which they found a Pavement of Bricks and Coins of Constantine the Great, and others). There was particularly intended a large Cupola, 30 Feet above the Roof, which would have been feen a

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great Way to the Sea. The South-fide is 216 Feet. and the West 326; and the Shell, when it was difcontinued, is faid to have cost 25,000% for the Building was fo far profecuted, that it was carried up to the

Roof, and covered.

The Centre of this Palace being exactly in a Line with the Centre of the West-end of the Cathedral, the City was to have been laid open the Breadth of the Transept or Cross of the Cathedral, from North to South, in a Street about 200 Feet broad; and on each Side were to have been built Houses for the Nobility, and Persons of Rank; the Ground for which, and for the Parks, was actually procured. The Parks were to be near ten Miles in Circumference, and were to end West upon the open Downs, in View of Stock. bridge.

The principal Floor is a noble Range of Apartments,

20 Feet high.

This House, with a Royal Revenue, was afterwards fettled by Parliament, as an Appendage upon Prince George of Denmark for his Life, in case he had outlived the Queen: but his Royal Highness died before her Majesty. And now all Hope of seeing this Design perfeeted, or the House finished, is vanished. And his Pate Majesty King George I. made a Present to the Duke of Bolton of the fine Pillars of Italian Marble, which were to have supported its Stair-case; and were said to be a Present to the King from the Great Duke of Tuscany. At present, it is fitted up for a Prison for the French, taken captive in the War now on foot between the two Nations; and contains no less than 160 Rooms.

There are feveral other public Edifices in this City, and in the Neighbourhood, which I have not Room to describe; as the Hospitals, and Building adjoining near the East Gate. Towards the North is a Piece of an old Monastery undemolished, and which is still preserved to the Religion, being the Residence of fome

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fome private Roman Catholic Gentlemen, where they have an Oratory, and, as they fay, live still according This Building is called to the Rules of St. Benedict. Hide-house; and, as they live very usefully, and to the highest Degree obliging, among their Neighbours, they meet with no Obstruction from any body.

Beyond the River Itchin Eastward is an high Hill, called St. Giles's, from an Hospital whose Ruins only are now visible; and a Church-yard seeming to have been a Camp, besides the Marks of Bastions, and Works of Fortifications in the modern Stile. Here Waltheof, Earl of Northumberland and Huntingdon, was beheaded by Order of King William I. whose Body was carried to Crowland, and faid to work Miracles.

Winchester is about a Mile and half within the Walls: it is a Place of no Trade, other than is naturally occafioned by the Inhabitants of the City, and neighbouring Villages, one with another: here is no Manufacture, no Navigation; there was indeed an Attempt to make the River navigable from Southampton, and it was once made practicable; but it never answered the Expence, fo as to give Encouragement to the Undertakers to keep it up.

Here is a great deal of good Company; and abundance of Gentry being in the Neighbourhood, it adds to the Sociableness of the Place: the Clergy also here, are, generally speaking, rich, and very numerous; the Town is governed by a Mayor and Aldermen, and re-

turns two Members to Parliament.

The Hospital called of St. Cross, on the South of this City, at a Mile's Distance on the Road to Southampton, is worth Notice: it was founded by Bishop Blois, and greatly enlarged and augmented by Cardinal Beaufort; whose Statue is placed in a Niche over the Gate. The Church is in the Form of a Cross, and has a large square Tower. Every Traveler, that knocks at the Door of this House, in his Way, and

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asks for it, claims the Relief of a Piece of white Bread, and a Cup of Beer; which Donation is continued to

this Day.

How the Revenues of this Hospital, which should maintain the Master and 30 private Gentlemen, whom they call Fellows, but ought to call Brothers, are now reduced to maintain only 14, while the Master lives in a Figure equal to the best Gentleman in the County, would be well worth the Inquiry of a proper Visitor, if such can be named. It is a Subject that calls for Animadversion more than almost any other, when public Charities, designed for the Relief of the Poor, are embezled by the Rich, and turned to the Support of Luxury and Pride.

An Infirmary is established lately in Winchester, by voluntary Subscription, after the laudable Example of those of St. James's Westminster, and St. George's at Hyde-Park Gorner; and has met with great Success, principally owing to the Zeal and Pains of the late Rev. Dr. Alured Clarke. I have not Room to say all that might be said on this Head, and so must refer to the Account given by the Doctor, of the Rise and Progress, Rules and Orders, of this excellent Institution. The City is governed by a Mayor, Recorder, six Aldermen and 12 Burgesses, and much inhabited by

Clothiers.

I made an Excursion from Winchester, to see the antient Town of Romsey, noted for its delightful S tuation, having all round it Woods, Corr-fields, Meadows, and Pastures. The River, and Rivulets, which are many, have a rapid Course. The Town was questionless Roman, and its Name declares as much. The Church is a large noble Pile of Building, in Form of a Cross, with semicircular Chapels in the upper Angles.

The Building is in the same Taste and Manner with the oldest Part of Winchester Cathedral. It has lately been beautified; but the Roof of the South Cross is decayed, and, if not repaired, will shortly fall in. On

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the Outside of the North Cross are the Marks of some Cannon-balls, which, in the Civil Wars, were fired to batter down the Church; but they did no great

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Another thing here worth Notice, is, that, upon the Leads of the Side-aile towards the East, in a Corner. where some Rubbish and Dirt lies, there grows a pretty large Apple tree, which bears a good Quantity of Fruit; and is thought such a Curiosity, that it is sent about for Presents. At the West end is the Piece of an old Wall, probably belonging to the Nunnery built here by King Edgar.

Returning to Winchester, we struck up North-west. and came to Stockbridge, a forry Borough-town, noted for its Corruption in electing Members of Parliament, two of which it returns; and being a great Thoroughfare on the South-western Road, it has many good Inns, and those as well provided, as any on that

Road, tho' it has no Market.

The ingenious Sir Richard Steel once represented this Town in Parliament; and tho' he was powerfully opposed, yet carried his Election by a Stratagem, which made all the Women of his Side: Having made a great Entertainment for the Burgesses and their Wives. and after having been very facetious among them, he took up a large Apple, and stuck it full of Guineas, and declared it the Prize of that Man, whose Wife should be first brought to bed after that Day nine Months. This occasioned a great deal of Mirth; and what with the Entertainment, and with the Hopes of getting the Prize, the good Women prevailed on their Husbands to vote for Sir Richard, whom they to this Day commemorate; and, as it is faid, once made a great Push to get a standing Order of the Corporation made, that no Man should be received as a Candidate for that Borough, who did not offer himfelf upon the RESERVED TO THE DESCRIPTION OF WAR fame Terms.

No 6 June 10 Louis Con Soil

Mayor, Market, and Borough town, and also noted for being a great Thoroughsare on the direct Western Road, as well from Newbury to Salisbury, as from London to Taunton, and all the manusacturing Towns of Somersetshire, whereby it is greatly enriched, and is a thriving handsome, well-built, and populous Town. Here is an Hospital for six Men, built and endowed by Mr. Pollen, a Member for this Borough, and a Free school sounded in 1569. The Town is very healthy, and pleasantly situated just on the Borders of those Downs, which are commonly, though not properly, called Salisbury-plains.

Near this Town is a Village called Weybill, where the open Down Country begins; and here, upon these Downs, is the famous Weybill, where the greatest Fair for Sheep in the Nation is kept; and principally of Ewes, for Store-sheep for the Farmers of the Counties of Berks, Oxford, Bucks, Bedford, Hertford, Middlesex, Kent, Surry, and Sussex, who send for them to this

Place.

From Andover we bent our Way towards Wiltsbire, by Quarley hills, on the West-side of which are the Remains of a great Fertification, confisting of two outward Trenches, and other Works of great Strength; and then entering that County, and leaving Luggershall, a small Hamlet-town, noted only for returning two Members to Parliament, and for having been formerly the Castle of Geffrey Fitzpiers, on the North of us, we came to Ambresbury, a very antient Town, pretty large, standing on the River Avon, and having several good Inns; but its Market is much decayed, and alm it discontinued. It is said to have taken its Name from Ambrius, who founded here a Monastery of Benedictines, long before the Coming in of the Saxons, who destroyed it; or from Aurelius Ambrose, a British Prince, who rebuilt it, and filled it with 300 Monks,

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to pray for the Souls of those noble Britons, who were flain by the Treachery of the perfidious Hengist the Saxon, who massacred here in cold Blood 300 of the antient British Nobility, whom he had invited, with their King Vortigern, to meet him there without Arms, to treat of a League of Amity, and rejoice together. The treacherous Saxon saved only the King, whom he obliged to give him near a Third of his Kingdom Eastward, before he would set him at Liberty.

The Monastery at Ambresbury was converted into a Nunnery; and Eleanor, King Henry III's Queen, retired and died here: whose Example induced the Princess Mary, King Edward the Second's Daughter, and 13 Noblemens Daughters, to take the Veil together in this House. In the Wall of the Abbey we saw an old Grave-stone, supposed of Queen Guenever, King Ar-

thur's Wife.

Here is a Seat belonging to the Duke of Queensberry, built by Inigo Jones, but not much to be admired. The present Duke has made great Improvements in his Gardens; having inclosed and planted a large steep Hill; at the Foot of which the River Avon very beautifully winds, as also through the greatest Part of the Garden.

On the Bridge, over this River, is built a Room af-

ter the Manner of the Chinese.

When the Whole of the Duke's Design is completed, it will not be inferior to any of the finest Places in those Parts.

The stupendous Piece of Antiquity, called Stonehenge, deserves our particular Notice; and I shall therefore borrow from Dr. Stukely's Piece, intituled, Stonehenge, a Temple restored to the British Druids, the following brief Account and Description of it; reserving to that elaborate Performance itself (which well deserves the Attention of the Curious) for a more satisfactory Account, and for the Doctor's Reasons for his Hypothesis, which, we think, he has made out with as much Certainty, as the Nature of the Subject will admit.

The Wiltshire-downs, or Salisbury-plain, as this Gentleman observes, is one of the most delightful Spots in Britain; and Stone-henge has attracted the Admiration of all Ages. Mr. Camden himself says of it, That he was grieved, that the Founders of it could not be traced out: but Dr. Stukely has very happily made it more than probable, that it was a Temple of the British Druids, and the Chief (the Cathedral, as it may be

called) of all their Temples in this Island.

The Stones of which it was composed, are not factitious; for that would have been a greater Wonder, than to bring them together to the Place where they are; but undoubtedly were brought 15 or 16 Miles off, prodigious as they are, from those called the Grey Wethers, near Abury, on Marlborough-downs, all the greater Stones, except the Altar, being of that Sort; for that, being designed to resist Fire, is of a still harder kind: it is a Composition of Crystals of red, green, and white Colours, cemented by Nature with opake Granules, of flinty or stony Matter. The Stone at the Upper-end of the Cell, which is fallen down, and broken in half, the Doctor tells us, weighs above 40 Tons, and would require above 140 Oxen to draw it; and yet is not the heaviest of them. Judge then, what a stupendous Labour it was to bring together, so many Miles, such a Number as were used here; and this has induced many inconfiderate People to imagine, that the Founders had an Art of making Stone, which has been loft for many Ages.

The present Name is Saxon, though the Work is, beyond all Comparison, older, signifying an hanging Rod or Pole, i. e. a Gallows, from the hanging Parts, Architraves, or rather Imposts; and pendulous Rocks are still, in Yorkshire, called Henges. But the antient Name was most probably the Ambres; for which our learned Author, to whom we refer, gives very satisf

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factory Reasons; and hence the adjacent Town of Ambresbury, which I have taken notice of, has its Name.

Stone-benge stands not upon the Summit of an Hill, but near it: however, at half a Mile Diffance, the Appearance is awful; but as you come up the Avenue, in the North-east of it, which Side is most perfect, the Greatness of its Contour fills the Eye in an aftonishing manner. It is inclosed in a circular Ditch, which havin passed, we ascend 35 Yards before we come at the Work. The Stones are chiffel'd, and far from rude. though not cut to that Preciseness, as the Ruins in Old Rome; and the Infide of them had more Pains taken with them than the Outfide; for fo, as our Author observes, the polite Architects of the Eastern World were wont to do; not like our London Builders, who carve every Moulding, and croud every Ornament they borrow from Books, on the Outfide of the public Structures, that they may the more commodioufly gather the Duft and Smoke.

When you enter the Building, whether on Foot or Horseback, and cast your Eyes around upon the yawning Ruins, you are struck into a Reverie, which no one can describe, and they only can be sensible of who seel it. Other Buildings sall by Piece-meal, but here a single Stone is a Ruin. Yet is there as much undemolished, as enablesus sufficiently to recover its Form, when in its most perfect State. When we advance sarther, the dark Part of the ponderous Imposts over our Heads, the Chasms of Sky between the Jambs of the Cell, the odd Construction of the Whole, and Greatness of every Part, surprize. If you look upon the perfect Part, you sansy intire Quarries mounted up into the Air; if upon the rude Havock below, you see, as it were, the Bowels of a Mountain turned Inside

out.

The whole Work, being of a circular Form, is about 108 Feet in Diameter, from out to out. The

Intention of the Founders was this: The whole Circle was to confift of 30 Stones, each Stone to be four \* Cubits broad, each Interval two Cubits; 30 times four Cubits is twice 60: 30 times two Cubits is 60; fo that thrice 60 Cubits complete a Circle, whose Diame. ter is 60. A Stone being four Cubits broad, and two thick, is double the Interval, which is a Square of two Cubits. Change the Places between the Stones, and their Intervals, and it will make a good Ground-plot for a circular Portico of Greek or Roman Work; tho' these Bodies of Stone, which are in the Nature of Imposts or Cornices, never had, or were intended to have, any Mouldings upon them, like Greek or Roman Work: they are wrought perfectly plain, and fuitable to the Stones that support them; and the Chiffeling of the upright Stones is only above-ground; for the four or five Feet in Length below-ground is left in the original natural Form. The upright Stones are made very judiciously to diminish a little every Way; so that at-top they are but three Cubits and an half broad, and fo much nearer, as to fuffer their Imposts to meet a little over the Heads of the Uprights, both within-fide and without; by which means the Uprights are less liable to fall or fwerve.

It is to be feared, some indiscreet People have been digging about the great Entrance, with ridiculous Hopes of finding Treasure; and so have loosened the chalky Foundation; for the upper Edge of the Impost overhangs no less than two Feet seven Inches, which is very considerable in an Height of 18. The whole Breadth at the Foundation is but two Feet and an half; and this noble Front is now chiefly kept up by the Masonry of the Mortice, and Tenon of the Imposts.

The Contrivance of the Founders in making Mor-

This Cubit is the old Hehrew, Phanician, or Egyptian Cubit, and what the Founders of Stone benge went by, and amounts to 20 Inches four-fifths English Measure.

Imposts.

tices and Tenons between the upright Stones and the Imposts, is admirable; but so contrary to any Practice of the Romans, that it alone oversets their Claim to the Work. These Tenons and Mortices of this outer Circle are round, and sit one another very aptly. They are ten Inches and one half in Diameter, and resemble half an Egg, rather than an Hemisphere; and so effectually keep both Uprights and Imposts from Luxation, that they must have been thrown down with great Dissiculty and Labour. The whole Height of Upright and Impost is ten Cubits and an half; the Upright, nine; the Impost over the grand Entrance is, in its middle Length, 11 Feet 10 Inches, and so is larger than the rest; and it is also a little broader, measuring on the Inside.

Of the outer Circle of Stone henge, which, in its Perfection, confisted of 60 Stones, 30 Uprights, and 30 Imposts, there are 17 Uprights lest standing, 11 of which remain continuous by the grand Entrance, five Imposts upon them. One Upright, at the Back of the Temple, leans upon a Stone of the inner Circle. There are six more lying upon the Ground, whole, or in Pieces; so that 24 out of 30 are still visible at the Place. There is but one Impost more in its proper Place, and but two lying upon the Ground; so that 22 are carried off. Hence our Author infers, this Temple was not defaced, when Christianity prevailed; but that some rude Hands carried the Stones away for other Uses. So much for the larger Circle of Stones with

As to the lesser Circle, which never had any Imposts, it is somewhat more than eight Feet from the Inside of the outward one, and consists of 40 lesser Stones; forming with the outward Circles, as it were, a circular Portico, a most beautiful Work, and of a pretty Essect; they are stat Parallelograms, as those of the outer Circle; and their general and designed Pro-

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portion is two Cubits, or two and an half, as suitable Stones were found. They are a Cubit thick, and sour and one half high, which is more than seven Feet; this was their stated Proportion, being every Way the half of the upper Uprights. These Stones are of an harder Composition than the rest, the better to resist Violence, as they are lesser; and they have sufficient Fastenings in the Ground, There are but 19 of the 40 lest; but 10 of them are standing in situ, sive in one Place contiguous, three in another, two in another.

The Walk between these two Circles, which is 300 Feet in Circumference, is very noble, and very delight-

ful.

The Adytum, or Cell, into which we may suppose none but the upper Order of Druids were to enter, is composed of certain Compages of Stones, which our Author calls Trilithons, because made each of two up. right Stones, with an Impost at-top, and there are manifestly five of these remaining; three of which are intire, two are ruined, in some measure; but the Stones remain in fitu. It is a magnificent Niche, 27 Cubits long, and as much broad, measuring in the widest The Stones that compose it are really stupen. dous; their Height, Breadth, and Thickness, are enormous: and to fee fo many of them placed together, in a nice and critical Figure, with Exactness; to confider, as it were, not a Pillar of one Stone, but a whole Wall, a Side, an End of a Temple, of one Stone; to view them curiously; creates such a Motion in the Mind, as Words cannot express. One very remarkable Particular in the Constitution of this Adytum has escaped all Observers before our Author, which is this: As this Part is composed of Trilithons set two and two on each Side, and one right before, they rife in Height and Beauty of the Stones, from the Lower-end of the Adytum to the Upper-end: that is, the two hithermost Trilithons corresponding, or those next the grand Entrance, on the Right-hand, and on the Left, are exceeded

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ded ed in Height by the two next in Order: and those are exceeded by that behind the Altar, in the Upper-end of this Choir; and their Heights respectively are 13

Cubits, 14 Cubits, 15 Cubits.

The Imposts of these are all of the same Height, and ten Cubits may be supposed their Medium Measure in Length. The Artifice of the Tenons and Mortices of these Trilithons, and their Imposts, what Conformity they bear to that of the outer Circle, is exceedingly pretty, every thing being done very geometrically, and as would best answer every Purpose, from plain and simple Principles; and it is wonderful, that, in the Management of such prodigious Stones as these are, fixed in the Ground, and ramm'd in like Posts, there is not more Variation in the Height, Distance, &c.

Of these greater Stones of the Adytum, as is observed before, there are none wanting, being all on the Spot, ten Uprights, and five Cornices. The Trilithon first on the Left-hand is intire in fitu, but vaftly decayed, especially the Cornice, in which such deep Holes are corroded, that, in some Places, the Daws make their Nests in them. The next Trilithon on the Left is intire, composed of three most beautiful Stones. The Cornice, happening to be of a very durable English Marble, has not been much impaired by the Weather. Our Author took a Walk on the Top of it; but thought it a frightful Situation. The Trilithon of the Upper-end was an extraordinary Beauty; but probably, through the Indifcretion of somebody digging between them and the Altar, the noble Impost is diflodged from its airy Seat, and fallen upon the Altar, where its huge Bulk lies unfractured. The two Uprights that supported it, are the most delicate Stones of the whole Work. They were, our Author thinks, above 30 Feet long, and well chiffel'd, finely taper'd, and proportioned in their Dimensions. That Southward is broken in two, lying upon the Altar: the other still stands intire; but leans upon one of the Stones

Part of both, is raised somewhat above-ground. The Trilithon towards the West is intire, except that some of the End of the Impost is fallen clean off, and all the Upper edge is very much diminished by Time. The last Trilithon, on the Right-hand of the Entrance into the Adytum, has suffered much. The outer Upright, being the Jamb of the Entrance, is still standing; the other Upright and Impost are both fallen forwards into the Adytum, and broken each into three Pieces, as supposed, from digging near it. That which is standing, has a Cavity in it, in which two or three Persons

may fit warm from the Weather.

Ovals, respectively concentric. The Stones that form these Ovals, rise in Height, as nearer the Upper-end of the Adytum; and their mediate Measure is four Cubits and four Palms. They are of a much harder kind than the larger Stones in the lesser Circle; the Founders no doubt intending, that their lesser Bulk should be compensated by Solidity. Of these there are only six remaining upright: the Stumps of two are lest on the South-side by the Altar; one lies behind the Altar, dug up, or thrown down, by the Fall of the Upright there. One or two were probably thrown down by the Fall of the Upright of the strip Trilithon on the Righthand; a Stump of another remains by the Upright there still standing.

The whole Number of Stones may be thus computed. The great Oval consists of ten Uprights; the inner, with the Altar, of 20; the great Circle, of 30; the inner of 40, which are 100 upright Stones; five Imposts of the great Oval; 30 of the great Circle; the two Stones on the Bank of the Area; the Stone lying within the Entrance of the Area, and that standing without: there seems to be another lying on the Ground, by the Vallum of the Court, directly opposite to the Entrance of the Avenue: all added together, make just

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Temple, is composed. Behold the Solution of the mighty Problem! the magical Spell, which has so long perplexed the Vulgar, is broken! They think it an ominous thing to count the true Number of the Stones, and whoever does so, shall certainly die after it!

As to the Altar, it is laid, toward the Upper-end of the Adytum, at present flat on the Ground, and squeezed into it, as it were, by the Weight of the Ruins upon it. It is a kind of blue coarse Marble, such as comes from Derbyshire, and laid upon Tombs in our Churches and Church-yards. Our Author believes its Breadth is two Cubits three Palms; and that its first intended Length was ten Cubits, equal to the Breadth of the Trilithon, before which it lies. But it is very difficult to come at its true Length. It is 20 Inches thick, a just Cubit, and has been squared. It lies between the two Centres, that of the Compasses, and that of the String; leaving a convenient Space quite round it, no doubt as much as was necessary for this Ministration.

The Heads of Oxen, Deer, and other Beafts, have been found upon digging in and about Stone-henge, undoubted Reliques of Sacrifices, together with Woodashes. Mr. Camden says, Mens Bones have been found hereabouts; he means in the adjacent Barrows; and such our Author saw thrown out by the Rabbets, which have been brought hither of late Years; and, by their burrowing, threaten these noble Ruins, as the greedy Plough more and more invades the neighbour-

ing Plain.

But eternally, as he observes, is to be lamented the Loss of that Tablet of Tin, which was found at this Place in the time of Henry VIII. inscribed with many Letters; but in so strange a Character, that neither Sir Thomas Elliot, a learned Antiquary, nor Mr. Lilly, First High Master of St. Paul's School, could make any thing out of it; and which, no doubt, was a Memorial of the Founders, written by the Druids; and, had it

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been preserved till now, would have been an invalua-

ble Curiofity.

In the Year 1635. as they were plowing by the Barrows about Normanton-ditch, they found so large a Quantity of excellent Pewter, as, at a low Price, they sold for five Pounds. There are several of these Ditches, being verry narrow, which run across the Downs, which perhaps are Boundaries of Hundreds, Parishes, &c. These Pewter Plates might, very possibly, have been Tablets, with Inscriptions; but, falling into such rude Hands, they could no more discern the Writing, than interpret it. No doubt, says Dr. Stukely, this was some of the old British Stannum, which the Tyrian Hercules, surnamed Melcarthus, first brought ex Cassiteride Insula, or Britain: which Hercules lived in Abraham's Time, or soon after.

Mr. Webb tells us, the Duke of Buckingham dug about Stone-henge, perhaps much to the Prejudice of the Work. Mr. Webb also did the like, and found what he imagined was the Corner of a Thuribulum.

Mr. Hayward, late Owner of Stone-henge, likewise dug about it, and found Heads of Oxen, and other

Beafts Bones, and nothing elfe.

Dr. Stukely himself, in 1723, dug on the Inside of the Altar, about the Middle, four Feet along the Edge of the Stone, six Feet forward towards the Middle of the Adytum: at a Foot deep he came to the solid Chalk, mixed with Flints, which had never been stirred. The Altar was exactly a Cubit thick, i. e. 20 Inches sour-fifths, but broken in two or three Pieces by the ponderous Masses of the Imposts, and one upright Stone of that Trilithon, which stood at the Upper-end of the Adytum, being sallen upon it. Hence appears the Commodiousness of the Foundation for this large Work! They dug Holes in the solid Chalk, which would of itself keep up the Stones as firm, as if a Wall was built round them; and no doubt but they ramm'd

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up the Interstices with Flints. But he says, he had too much Regard to the Work, to dig any-where near the Stones. He took up an Ox's Tooth above-ground, without the Adytum, on the Right-hand of the lower-

most Trilithon Northward.

The Time our Author affigns for the building of Stone henge, is not long after Cambyfes's Invalion of Egypt; when he committed fuch horrid Outrages there, and made fuch dismal Havock with the Priests and Inhabitants in general, that they dispersed themfelves to all Parts of the World; some as far as the East-Indies; and some, it is not questioned, as far Westward, into Britain; and introduced some of their Learning, Arts, and Religion, among the Druids; and perhaps had an Hand in this very Work, the only one where the Stones are chiffel'd; all other Works of theirs being of rude Stones, untouched of the Tool, exactly after the Patriarchal and Jewish Mode, and therefore older than this : and this Conjecture is the more probable, because, at the time mentioned, the Phænician Trade was at its Height, which afforded a readier Conveyance hither. This was before the fecond Temple at Ferufalem was built; before the Grecians had any History.

For further Particulars of this stupendous Work, and other curious Matters relating and adjacent to it (such as its Antiquity before the time of the Belgæ, the Romans, the Saxons, and Danes; of the Wanflike; of Vespasian's Camp at Ambresbury; the Introduction of the Druids into Britain, which he puts about Abrabam's Time; its antient Name [the Ambres]; the Water-Vases of Stone-benge; the Avenues to it; the Cursus); we must refer our Readers to the Work itself, having already exceeded the Bounds to which the Nature of our Design confines us. But this we may add, that doubtless they had some Method in sormer Days, in soreign Countries, as well as here, to move heavier Weights than we now find practicable. How else did Solomon's Workmen build the Battlement or

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additional Wall, to support the Precipice of Mount Moriah, on which the Temple was erected; which was all built of Parian Marble, each Stone being 40 Cubits long, 14 broad, and eight Cubits thick. And so much for this celebrated Temple of Stone-henge.

About fix Miles North-west of this Place, at a small Village called Shrawton, near Longleat, the noble Seat of Lord Weymouth, is a curious Piece of Sculpture in Alabaster, which had been dug in one of the adjacent Barrows on Salisbury Plain. It is of an oval Form, about two Feet in Length, and one in the broadest Part of the Diameter. In the Middle is represented a Woman, habited as a Queen, with her Globe, Scepter, Crown, and Mantle of State. In a Compartment over her Head are three Figures, evidently representing the three Persons of the Holy Trinity. Round the Sides are Angels intermixed with some of the Apostles. The exquifite Workmanship of the Figure of the Woman (who feems intended for the Virgin Mary), the strong as well as tender Expression in her Features, and the Elegance of her Drapery, shew it to be the Work of a very skilful Hand.

We shall now proceed to give some Account of the famous Barrows on these Downs; and we shall borrow from the same learned Author the following curious

Particulars relating to them.

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The Tops of all the Hills, or rather easy Elevations, round Stone-henge, are, in a manner, covered with these Barrows, which make an agreeable Appearance, adorning the bare Downs with their Figures. This Ring of Barrows, however, reaches no farther, than till you lose Sight of the Temple, as we now make no doubt to call Stone-henge, or thereabouts. Many, from the great Number of these sepulchral Tumuli here, injudiciously conclude, that there have been great Battles upon the Plain, and that the Slain are buried there; but they are really no other than Family Bury-

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ing places fet near this Temple, for the same Reason as we bury in Church-yards, and consecrated Grounds.

We may readily count 50 at a time in Sight from the Place, especially in the Evening, when the sloping Rays of the Sun shine on the Ground beyond them. They are most of them of a very elegant Bell-like Form, and done with great Nicety; in general they are always upon elevated Ground, and in Sight of the Temple, as we have faid; for they all regard it, and are affuredly the fingle Sepulchres of Kings and great Personages, buried, during a confiderable Space of Time, and in There are many Groups of them together, as if Family Burial-places, and the Variety in them feems to indicate some Pre-eminence in the Persons interred. Most of them have little Ditches around; in many is a circular Ditch, 60 Cubits in Diameter, with a very small Tumulus in the Centre. Sixty, or even 100 Cubits, is a very common Diameter in the large Barrows. Often they are fet in Rows, and equidiffant, so as to produce a regular and pretty Appearance, and with some particular Regard to the Parts of the Temple, the Avenues, or the Cursus. Upon every Range of Hills, quite round Stone-henge, are successive Groups of Barrows for some Miles; and even that named Kingbarrow, by Lord Pembroke's Park Wall at Wilton, which our Author calls the Tomb of Carvilius, is fet within View of Stone-benge.

In 1722, the late Lord Pembroke opened a Barrow, in order to find the Position of the Body observed in those early Days. He pitched upon one of the double Barrows, where two are inclosed in one Ditch. He made a Section from the Top to the Bottom; an intire Segment from Centre to Circumference. The Composition was good Earth quite through, except a Coat of Chalk of about two Feet thick, covering it quite over, under the Turs. Hence it appears, that the Method of making the Barrows was, to dig up the Turs form great Space round, till the Barrow was brought to its Vol. I.

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In 1722, the late Lord Pembroke opened a Barrow, in order to find the Position of the Body observed in those early Days. He pitched upon one of the double Barrows, where two are inclosed in one Ditch. He made a Section from the Top to the Bottom; an intire Segment from Centre to Circumference. The Composition was good Earth quite through, except a Coat of Chalk of about two Feet thick, covering it quite over, under the Turs. Hence it appears, that the Method of making the Barrows was, to dig up the Turs force great Space round, till the Barrow was brought to its

intended Bulk. Then, with the Chalk dug out of the environing Ditch, they powdered it all over. And the Notion of Sanctity annexed to them, forbad People trampling on them, till perfectly fettled, and turfed over; whence the Neatness of their Form to this Day. At the Top, or Centre, of this Barrow, not above three Feet under the Surface, my Lord found the Skeleton of the Interred, perfect, of a reasonable Size, the Head lying Northward towards Stone-henge.

The Year following, by my Lord's Order, Dr. Stukely began upon another double Barrow. He began upon the leffer, and made a large Cut on the Top from East to West. After the Turf, he came to the Layer of Chalk, as before; then fine Garden Mould. About three Feet below the Surface, a Layer of Flints, humouring the Convexity of the Barrow, which are gathered from the Surface of the Downs in some Places, especially where it has been plowed. This, being about a Foot thick, rested on a Layer of soft Mould, another Foot; in which was inclosed an Urn full of The Urn was of unbaked Clay, of a dark rediff Colour, and crumbled into Pieces. It had been rudely wrought with small Mouldings round the Verge, and other circular Channels on the Outfide, with feveral Indentions between, made with a pointed Tool. The Bones had been burnt, and crouded all together in a little Heap, not fo much as a Hat-crown would contain; the Collar-bone, and one Side of the Underjaw, remaining very intire. It appears to have been a Girl of about 14 Years old, by their Bulk, and the great Quantity of female Ornaments mixed with the Bones; as great Numbers of Glass Beads of all Sorts, and of divers Colours, most yellow, one black; many fingle, many in long Pieces, notched between, fo as to resemble a String of Beads; and these were generally of There were many of Amber, of all a blue Colour. Shapes and Sizes, flat Squares, long Squares, round, oblong, little, and great; likewise many of Earth, of

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different Shapes, Magnitude, and Colour; some little and white, many large and flattish, like a Button. others like a Pully; but all had Holes to run a String through, either through their Diameter or Sides : many of the Button-fort feemed to have been covered with Metal, there being a Rim worked in them, wherein to turn the Edge of the Covering. One of these was covered with a thin Film of pure Gold. These were the young Lady's Ornaments, and had all undergone Fire; fo that what would eafily confume, fell to-pieces, as foon as handled: much of the Amber burnt half through. This Person was an Heroine; for we found the Head of her Javelin in Brass. At Bottom are two Holes for the Pin that fastened it to the Staff; besides, there was a sharp Bodkin, round at one End, square at the other, where it went into the Handle. Our Author preserved whatever is permanent of these Trinkets; but recomposed the Ashes of the illustrious Defunct, and covered them with Earth, leaving visible Marks a-top of the Barrow having been opened (to diffuade any other from again disturbing them): and this was his Practice in all the rest.

He then opened the next Barrow to it, inclosed in the same Ditch, which he supposed the Husband or Father of this Lady. At 14 Inches deep, the Mould being mixed with Chalk, he came to the intire Skeleton of a Man, the Skull and all the Bones exceedingly rotten and perished, through Length of Time: tho this was a Barrow of the latest Sort, as he conjectured. The Body lay North and South, the Head to the North, as that Lord Pembrake opened.

Next he went Westward to a Group of Barrows, whence Stone-henge bears East-north-east. Here is a large Barrow ditched about, but of an antient Make. On that Side next Stone-henge are ten lesser, small, and, as it were, crouded together. South of the great one is another Barrow, larger than those of the Group, but

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not equalling the first: it should seem, that a Man and his Wife were buried in the two larger, and that the rest were of their Children or Dependents. One of the small ones, 20 Cubits in Diameter, he cut through, with a Pit nine Feet in Diameter, to the Surface of the natural Chalk, in the Centre of the Barrow, where was a little Hole cut. A Child's Body, as it feems, had been burnt here, and covered up in that Hole; but, through Length of Time, confumed. From three Feet deep he found much Wood-ashes, soft, and black as Ink, some little Bits of an Urn, and black and red Earth, very rotten; some small Lumps of Earth, red as Vermilion; fome Flints burnt through; towards the Bottom, a great Quantity of Ashes, and burnt Bones. From this Place he counted 128 Barrows in Sight.

Going from hence more Southerly, is a circular Dishlike Cavity, 60 Cubits in Diameter, dug in the Chalk, like a Barrow reversed. It is near a great Barrow, the least of the South-western Group. This Cavity is seven Feet deep in the Middle, extremely well turned; and out of it, no doubt, the adjacent Barrow is dug. The Use of it seems to have been a Place for Sacrisicing and Feasting in Memory of the Dead, as was the antient Custom. It is all overgrown with that pretty Shrub Erica vulgaris, then in Flower, and smelling like Honey. He made a large cross Section in its Centre, upon the Cardinal Points, and found nothing

but a Bit of red Earthen Pot.

He then dug up one of those he calls Druids Barrows, a small Tumulus, inclosed in a large circular Ditch. Stone-henge bears hence North-cast. He made a cross Section ten Feet each Way, three Feet broad over its Centre upon the Cardinal Points: at length he found a squarish Hole cut in the solid Chalk in the Centre of the Tumulus; it was three Feet and an half, i. e. two Cubits long, and near two Feet broad, i. e. one Cubit, pointing to Stone-henge directly. It was a Cubit and

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and an half deep from the Surface. This was the Domus exilis Plutonia, covered with artifical Earth, not above a Foot thick from the Surface. In this little Grave he found all the burnt Bones of a Man, but no Signs of an Urn. The Bank of the circular Ditch is on the Outside, and is 12 Cubits broad. The Ditch is six Cubits broad (the Druids Staff); the Area is 70 Cubits in Diameter. The Whole 100.

He opened another of these of like Dimensions, next to that Lord Pembroke first opened, South of Stone-benge; and found a burnt Body in an Hole in the

Chalk, as before.

In some other Barrows he opened, were sound large burnt Bones of Horses and Dogs, together with human; also of other Animals, as seemed of Fowl, Hares, Boars, Deer, Goats, or the like; and, in a great and very slat old-sashioned Barrow, West from Stone-henge, among such Matters, he sound Bits of red and blue Marble, Chippings of the Stones of the Temple; so that probably the Interred was one of the Builders. Homer tells of Achilles slaying Horses and Dogs at the Funeral of his Friend Patroclus.

Lord Pembroke told the Doctor of a Brass Sword dug up in a Barrow here; which was fent to Oxford. that very old Barrow near Little Ambresbury, was found a very large Brass Weapon, of 20 Pounds Weight, like a Pole-ax, faid to be given to Colonel In the great long Barrow, farthest North from Stone-henge, which our Author supposes to be an Archdruid's, was found one of those Brass Instruments called Celts, 13 Inches long, which, he thinks, belonged to the Druids, wherewith they cut off the Misleto. Mr. Stallard of Ambresbury gave it to Lord Burlington. It was reposited in Sir Hans Sloane's Cabinet, and most probably removed, with the other Rarities of that famous Collector, to the British Meuseum. They dug a Cell in a Barrow East of Ambresbury, and it was inhabited for some time: there they saw all the Bones of an Horse. We find evidently, adds the Doctor, the'e

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Bodies, probably before the Name of Rome. So Lacrymateries we read of in Scripture, antienter than Greek

or Roman Times, Pfalmlvi. 8.

Since the time mentioned by the Doctor, there have been Pieces of Spears, and other Instruments of War, dug up in some of the Tumuli near Ambresbury; which are in the Possession of his Grace the Duke of Queensberry, who has already planted four of the largest Tumuli with Firs: and, fince he bought the Manor of Stone-henge, has been preparing to embellish all the others within the Manor with evergreen Trees, which will not only beautify the Country, but also become Land-marks for Travellers, who are often at a Loss to find their Way over these large Plains, if they are not accustomed to the Roads. His Grace has also made Ridings over the Downs from Ambreshury, round by Stone-henge, which are planted with Clumps of evergreen Trees, and are a great Beauty to those open Downs,

Salisbury Plains are certainly the most charming that can any-where be seen. The numerous Flocks of Sheep all round, which Way soever we turn, are a fine Sight: it is ordinary for these Flocks to contain from 3000 to 5000 each; and several private Farmers

hereabouts have two or three fuch Flocks.

But it is more remarkable still, how a great Part of these Downs comes, by a new Method of Husbandry, not only to be made arable, but to bear plentiful Crops of Wheat, though never known to our Ancestors to be capable of any such thing; nay, they would probably have laughed at any one, that had gone about to plow up the wild Downs and Hills, which they thought only sit for Sheep-walks; but Experience has made the present Age more skilful in Husbandry: for by only solding the Sheep upon those Lands, after they are turned up with the Plough (which generally goes within three or four Inches of the solid Rock of Chalk), they become

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come abundantly fruitful,, and bear very good Wheat, as well as Rye and Barley. This Husbandry was introduced at a time when Corn bore a very high Price, the Seasons having proved so wet and cold for two or three Years, as to greatly damage the Corn in the low Grounds, and where the Downs had been ploughed and fown with Corn, it succeeded so well as to encourage others to break up more of them: as the Land is very shallow, being in few Places more than five Inches deep, above the Chalk or Flints; fo in two or three Years it was exhausted, and scarce produced double the Quantity of Grain which was fown upon it, therefore was not worth cultivating: and by having destroyed the Sward of Grass which was upon it before ploughing, the Land is now worth nothing; fo that what was at first supposed to be a great Improvement, proved the total Ruin of those Estates.

This plain open Country contains in Length from Winchester to Salisbury 25 Miles, from thence to Derchester 21 Miles, thence to Weymouth 6 Miles; so that they lie near 50 Miles in Length; and in Breadth they reach also in some Places from 35 to 40 Miles. Those who would make any practicable Guess at the Number of Sheep which usually seed on the Downs, may take it from a Calculation, made, as I was told, at Dorchester, that there were 600,000 Sheep fed within the Circumserence of six Miles round that Town.

As we passed this open plain Country, we saw the Ruins of a great many old Roman and British Camps, and other Remains of the antient Inhabitants of this Kingdom, and of their Wars, Battles, Intrenchments, Encampments, Buildings, and other Fortifications, which are indeed very agreeable to a Traveller, that has read the History of the Country.

Old Sarum, which is the next Place we come to, is as remarkable as any of these; where is a double Intrenchment, with a deep Graff, or Ditch, to either of O 4 them.

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them. It is faid, it was a Roman Station, and the antient Sorbiodunum. It was deferted in King Henry Ill's time, for want of Water, when the Inhabitants founded New Sarum. The old City is of an orbicular Form, erected on one of the most elegant Designs imaginable. It was, first, a Fortress of the antient Britons. The Prospect of this Place is at present very august. and must have afforded a most noble Sight, when in Perfection. In the Angle to the North west stood the Cathedral, and Episcopal Palace. The City fills up the Summit of an high and steep Hill, near the Bottom of which runs the River Avon. Here Synods, and British Parliaments, have formerly been held; and hither the States of the Kingdom were fummoned to swear Fealty to William I. In this City was the Palace of the British and Saxon Kings and of the Roman Emperors. Near it is one Farm-house; and that is all, which is left of this antient City: yet this is called the Borough of Old Sarum, and fends two Members to Parliament; who are chosen by the Proprietors of certain Lands. Whom those Members can justly say they represent, would however be hard for them to answer.

the Streets are all built at right Angles (as it is faid, according to the Model of Old Babylon): they are, generally, wide and spacious; and a fine clear Canal of Water, handsomely brick'd, runs through each. The Market-place is large, and exceedingly well furnished.

The City lies at the Confluence of two Rivers, the Avon and the Willy, each of them fingly a confiderable River, but very large, when joined together; and yet much larger, when they receive the Nadder, a third River, which joins them near Clarendon Park, about three Miles below the City; when, with a deep Channel, and a Current less rapid, they run down to Christ-Church, where they empty themselves into the Sea. From that Town upwards, to within two Miles of Salisbury, they are made navigable; but the Strength

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of the Stream would not permit to make them so up to the City.

Salisbury, and all the County of Wilts, are full of a great Variety of Manufactures; and those too of the most considerable in England: as the Cloathing Trade, and that of Flannels, Druggets, and also several other Sorts of Manufactures; of which in their Place.

Salisbury has, in particular, two remarkable Manufactures that flourish in it, which employ the Poor all around; namely, fine Flannels, and Long Cloths for

the Turky Trade, called Salisbury Whites.

The Close, adjacent to the Cathedral, in which live the Canons and Prebendaries, is so large and well-

built, that it looks like a fine City of itself.

The Cathedral Church was begun by Bishop Poore (who also built Hornham Bridge); the Work was continued by Robert Bingham, and William of York; and finished by Giles de Bridport, Bishop of this See: all in the Space of 42 Years. It is built in the Figure of a Cross. Above the Roof, which is 116 Feet to the Top. rifes the Tower and Spire, the finest and highest in England; being, from the Ground to the Top of the Weathercock, 135 Yards; and yet the Walls fo exceeding thin, that, at the Upper-part of the Spire, upon a View made by the late Sir Christopher Wren, the Wall was found to be less than five Inches thick; upon which a Consultation was had, whether the Spire, or at least the Upper-part of it, should be taken down, it being supposed to have received some Damage by the great Storm in the Year 1703. but it was resolved in the Negative; and Sir Christopher ordered it to be strengthened with Bands of Iron Plates, which have effectually secured it; and I have heard some of the best Architects fay, it is stronger now, than when it was first built.

The Tower has 16 Lights, four on each Side. Its Ornaments are rich, and yet judiciously adapted to the whole Body of the Building. But the Beauty of it is burt

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hurt by a thing very eafily to be remedied; which is this: The Glass in the several Windows, being very old, has contracted such a Rust, that it is scarcely to be distinguished from the Stone Walls; consequently, it appears as if there were no Lights at all in the Tower, but only Recesses in the Stone: whereas, were the Windows glazed with Squares, and kept clean (which might be done), they would be plainly visible at a Distance; and not only so, but from all the adjacent Hills, you would see the Light quite through the Tower each Way; which would have a very fine Effect.

They tell us here long Stories of the great Art used in laying the first Foundation of this Church, the Ground being marshy and wet, occasioned by the Channels of the Rivers; that it was laid upon Piles, according to some; and upon Wool-packs, according to others: but this is not to be believed by those who know, that the whole Country is one Rock of Chalk, even from the Top of the highest Hills, to the Bottom of the deepest Rivers. And the Foundation of Wool-packs is, no doubt, allegorical, and has respect to the

Woollen Trade.

There are no Vaults in the Church, nor Cellars in the whole City, by reason of Springs: very frequently the Water rifes up in the Graves, that are dug in the Church; and is sometimes two Feet high in the Chapter-house. Whether this is owing to Springs, or to penning up the River Avon, and the Currents in the Streets, is uncertain: but the Foundation of the Church must be greatly impaired, and, in time, ruined, by it. And, if it proceeds from the oofing of Water from the feveral adjacent Streams, I should imagine, that digging a deep Trench round the Church-yard, and taking off fo much of the Surface, as to make a Declivity each Way to the Trench, would, at least, keep the Church dry, especially if the Water drained into it were constantly thrown out by an Engine.

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In the Outside of the Church there is a beautiful Simplicity and Elegance; but the West-end, though crouded with ornamental Work, is not well designed: nor does the Church deserve to be so much admired within as without: though its Inside is certainly hurt by the paltry old Painting in and over the Choir, and the White-washing lately done, wherein they, very stupidly, have every where drawn black Lines, to imitate Joints of Stone.

It is the Opinion of many, that this Building is light and flender to a Fault; as, on the contrary, the new Part of the Cathedral of Winchester is too heavy and crouded: for, tho' a Building be strong, yet, if it have not the Appearance of Strength, it is as great a Defect

in its Beauty, as being over clumfy.

To give an Instance of this; let any one view the Arcade round Covent-Garden, and the rustic Arcade of the Front of the Royal-Exchange, and he will be convinced, that Piers or Pillars may be too slender, as well as too thick. But one would imagine, that the Builder of Salisbury Cathedral had been making Experments, to see what he could do, rather than what he ought to have done; for, it is plain, his Reason for building so slight, could not proceed from any Apprehension of the Foundation failing; because, if so, he would not have thought of carrying up a Steeple such a vast Height.

The North-west of the sour Pillars, which support the Steeple, having bent towards the Middle, was the Reason, I suppose, of erecting the two lower Arches, intersecting the great Ailes of the Cross from North to South, to preserve the perpendicular Level of that, and the other three Pillars, as much as possible. But this is done in the Gothic Manner, with so much Beauty, that, were there no need of them, one would scarcely wish

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them away. How they let this Building into the main Pillars, and how they ventured to dig for a Foundation

is worth the Examination of Architects.

The Steeple, besides these Arches, is likewise propt by Stone Supports, carried every way diagonally cross the open Arcades, above the Arches of the Side-Ailes, and also cross the Windows of the middle Aile; and seem to have been done about 200 Years ago.

The ordinary Boast of this Building is contained in

the following Verses;

As many Days as in One Year there be, So many Windows in One Church we see: As many Marble Pillars there appear, As there are Hours throughout the fleeting Year: As many Gates, as Moons One Year do view: Strange Tale to tell, yet not more strange than true!

If this be really so, and we are to suppose that the Designer had it in View when he formed his Plan, it was a Consideration so trifling and childish, that it calls for Censure rather than Approbation. Convenience for the intended Purpose, Strength, and then Beauty, are the three things to be considered in all Buildings: and happy is his Genius, who succeeds in them all. Would any Person therefore (except a fantastical Monk) cramp and hurt his Plan, which unavoidably must be the Case, for such a ridiculous End as this?—Surely, no: we ought rather to impute this Discovery to some cunning Observer, who has sound out what the Architect never thought of.

The Organ in the Church is fixed over the Entrance of the Choir: it is very large, being 20 Feet broad, and 40 Feet high, to the Top of its Ornaments. It has 50 Stops, which are 18 more than what are in the Organ of St. Paul's! but the Sweetness of the Tone of St. Paul's Organ is far beyond that of Salisbury;

tho' the last is a very good Instrument.

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The Church has been lately repaired by the Contributions of the Bishop and Prebendaries, set on foot by Bishop Sherlock; who, it seems, thought that the Dignitaries ought to support what supported them; and that all they got by the Church, was not designed merely to make or enrich their Families.

Some of the Windows of the Church, which escaped

the Fury of the Zealots of 1641. are well painted.

There are some very sine Monuments in this Church; particularly in that they call the Virgin Mary's Chapel, behind the Altar, is a noble Monument for a late Duke and Duchess of Somerset, with their Portraits at full Lenth. The late ingenious and excellent Duchess of Somerset, of the Piercy Family, also her Daughter the Marchioness of Caermarthen, and a second Son of her Grace, both by Duke Charles Seymour, are likewise interred here; as he himsels is.

The Figure of one Bennet is here represented, who, endeavouring to imitate our Saviour in Fasting Forty Days and Forty Nights, carried his Point so far, that, being reduced to a Skeleton, he sell a Victim to his presumptuous and enthusiastic Folly at the End of 17

Days.

There are many antient Monuments in this Church; to wit, Bishop Poore's, who first began the Building of it; Bishop Bingham's; William of York's; a Brass Plate in the Wall for Dean Gourdon a Scot Bishop Audley's Tomb; Bishop Salcot's; Bishop Bridport's; Dr. Sydenham's; a fair well wrought Monument of Free-stone for Sir Thomas Gorges and his Lady, adorned with Figures of the regular Solids. A Tomb for the Lord Hungerford, who was hanged and degraded, and had a Toad put into his Coat of Arms; an Iron twisted Wire hangs up near his Tomb, signifying an Halter. The like for the Lord Stourton, whose Tomb is also here on the other Side of the Chapel of our Lady; a Monument

of that Family, with fix Holes on one Side and fix on the other, alluding, as his Coat of Arms, to fix Wells. three within his Park, and three without; the Lord Cheyney's Tomb; Bishop Beauchamp's; Sir William Long speare's, Rosamond's Son by King Henry II.; a stately rich Monument of the little Earl of Hertford; Dr. Wilton's, with a Rebus on it, Will and Tun; Bishop Capen's; a Monument for Sir Richard Mompesson and his Lady, which is a gaudy one; Bishop Jewell, content with a Grave-stone; Bishop Uvall; Bishop Chest, were also buried here: Here is likewise a Monument to the beneficent Dr. Seth Ward, Bishop of this See, who founded, amongst other Benefactions (which I shall take Notice of in Hertfordsbire), an handsome. College for the Widows of ten Ministers, allowing to each 15 l. a Year; and which has been fince obliged to Dr. Gilbert, late Bishop of this See, now Archbi-Thop of York.

The Cloister is 160 Feet square, the inner Cloister 30 Feet wide, with 10 Arches on each Side, the Top vaulted, and covered with Lead. Over the East Walk of the Cloister is a spacious Library; but not over-well stocked with Books. The Chapter House is Octagon, and of 50 Feet in Diameter; the Roof bearing all upon one small Marble Pillar in the Centre, which seems so feeble, that it is hardly to be imagined it can be a sufficient Support to it. It hath 52 Stalls in it for the 52

Prebendaries of this Church.

The Corporation of Sarum purchased a fine original Picture of Queen Anne, drawn by the celebrated Dahl, and put it up in the Council-chamber of the City. This Picture formerly belonged to the Society of Gentlemen (all Members of Parliament) known by the Name of The October Club, and was set up in the great Room belonging to the Bell Tavern in Westminster; which then was the Sign of the House where they used to meet, till the Death of that Queen.

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Here are three other Churches, dedicated to St-Martin, St. Thomas, and St. Edmund; and one other called Fishertown, from its Situation.

The Charter of Incorporation was granted to the City by King Henry III. who made it a County of it-

self: and it sends two Members to Parliament.

In 1736-7. an Act passed for the better Repairing and Paying the Highways, Streets, and Watercourses, within this City; and for Enlightening the Streets, Lanes, and Passages; and better Regulating the

nightly Watch.

From Salisbury I went to see the antient House and Seat of Glarendon, which gives Title to the Earl of that Name. This Place should be called Clorendon, from the memorable Roman Camp, half a Mile off the Park, near the Roman Road, made or repaired by Constantius Chlorus, Father of Constantine. It is a beauful Fortification, of a round Form, upon a dry chalky Hill. Within is a circular Ditch, supposed to be a less Sort of Camp for the Summer. The Park is a fweet and beautiful Spot. Here King John built a Palace, where feveral Parliaments have been held. Part of the Fabric is still left, though they have for The Matemany Years been pulling it down. rials are chiefly Flint; and it was built upon the Side of an Hill, but no-way fortified, though it took up much Ground. This Palace is called the Manor; and from it lies a subterraneous Passage to the Queen's Manor. Between the Camp and the Park was a Roman Road, from Sorbiodunum, or Old Sarum, to Winchester.

But this being a large County, and full of memorable Branches of Antiquity and modern Curiofity, I made several little Excursions from this beautiful Spot,

to view the Northern Parts of the County.

I have mentioned, that this County is generally a vast continued Body of high chalky Hills, whose Tops spread themselves into fruitful and pleasant Downs and

Plains, upon which great Flocks of Sheep are fed, &c. But the Reader is defired to observe; these Hills and Plains are most beautifully intersected, and cut through, by the Course of divers pleasant and profitable Rivers; along and near the Banks of which there always is a Chain of fruitful Meadows and rich Pastures, and those interspersed with a great many pleasant Towns, Villages, and Houses, and among them many of a considerable Magnitude; so that, while you view the Downs, and think the Country wild and uninhabited, yet, when you descend into these Vales, you are surprised with the most pleasant and fertile Spot in Engaland.

No less than four of these Rivers meet all together, at or near the City of Salisbury, the Waters of three of which run through the Streets of the City: viz. the 1. The Nadder Nadder, the Willy, and the Avon. rifes near the End of the Blow-mill Course, and paffes by Chilmark, a pleasant Village, noted for its Quarries of very good white Stone, which rifes in many Dimenfions; infomuch that there is now a fingle Stone lying over the Mouth of the Quarry like an Architrave, full 60 Feet long, 12 in Thickness, and perfectly without 2. The Willy rifes about Warminster; runs by Yarnbury, a vast Roman Camp (where some distinguish Vespasian's Name; a great semicircular Work at the Entrance; over against which, on the other Side the Willy, is another Camp); then running by Orchestra, remarkable for a kind of very long Grais, with which they fatten Hogs, it gives Name to Wilton, and forms the Canal before the Front of Wilton House; and then joining the Nadder, runs through the Gardens at the End of the Avenue. 3. The Avon rifes from under a great Ridge of the Hills, which divide Wiltsbire into the North and South, adorned with the Wansdike. It paffes Southward through a great Number of Villages to Ambresbury.

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What is most worth a Man of Curiosity's seeing in this County, is Wilton House. It is situated in a plen-sant Vale, having Wilton on one Side (a little Town which returns two Members to Parliament), a spacious Park on the other.

The Building was begun in the Reign of Hen. VIII. The great Quadrangle was finished in the time of Edward VI. and the Porch was designed by Hans Holbein. The Hall-side, being burnt down some Years ago, was rebuilt by the late Thomas Earl of Pembroke, then Lord High Admiral of England, in a very noble and sumptuous Manner. The Stair-case, which is very large, was ordered, by the late Earl, to be painted in Claro obscuro, by Van Risquet. The other Parts, rebuilt by the first Philip Earl of Pembroke, were all designed by the samous Inigo Jones, and finished by him in the Year 1640.

The Canal before the House lies parallel with the Road, and receives into it the whole River Willy, or at least is able to do so: it may indeed be said, that the River is made into a Canal. When we come into the Court-yards before the House, there are several Pieces of Antiquity to entertain the Curious; as particularly a noble Column of Porphyry, with a Marble Statue of Venus on the Top of it; which, as they told me, is 32 Feet high, and of excellent Workmanship, and that it came last from Candia, but sormerly from

Alexandria.

As the Earl of Pembroke above-mentioned was a Nobleman of great Learning, and a Master in Antiquity, he took Delight in collecting such valuable Pieces of Painting and Sculpture, as made Wilton House a persect Museum, or Receptacle of Rarities: and we meet with several things there, which are to be found no-where else in the World. I shall particularize but a sew; for a Volume might be employed in a sull Description of them; and indeed a Volume is actually written on the Subject.

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The Piece of our Saviour's washing his Disciples Feet, which they shew you in one of the first Rooms you go into, is admirable. At the Foot of the great Stair-case is a Bacchus, as large as the Life, done in fine Peloponnessan Marble, carrying a young Bacchus on his Arm, the young one eating Grapes, and shewing by his Countenance he is pleased with the Taste of them. One ought to stop every two Steps of this Stair-case, as we go up, to contemplate the vast Variety of Pictures that cover the Walls, and of some of the best Masters in Europe: and yet this is but an Introduction to what is beyond them.

The great Geometrical Stair case itself is deserved. Iy admired; and was the First of this Kind in Eng-

land.

It is univerfally acknowleged, that the Apartments called the Salon, and the great Dining-room, are the noblest Pieces of Architecture, that have been hitherto produced: the first is a Cube of 30 Feet; the other is a double Cube of 60 by 30; and both of them 30

Feet high.

When you are entered these grand Apartments, such Variety strikes upon you every way, that you scarce know to which Hand to turn yourself first. On one Side you see several Rooms filled with Paintings, all so curious, and various, that it is with Reluctance you leave them: and, looking another Way, you are called off by a vast Collection of Busts, and Pieces of the greatest Antiquity of the Kind, both Greek and Roman.

In one End of the grand Room is the celebrated Family-picture by Vandyke, 20 Feet long, and 12 Feet high, containing 13 Figures, as big as the Life; which rather appear as so many real Persons, than the Pro-

duction of Art.

The Picture over the Chimney is Prince Charles, and his Brothers the Dukes of York and Gloucester. And over the Doors, on each Side of the capital Picture, are two admirable Portraits of King Charles I.

and his Queen. The other Pictures in this Room are of the Pembroke Family, drawn at full Length. All by Vandyke.

It was at this House, that Sir Philip Sidney wrote his Arcadia: and in the Bottom Panels of the Wainscot of the Salon, several Incidents described in that Romance are represented in Miniature: but the Painting

is not well done.

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After this fine Range of Beauties is seen, we are far from being at an End of our Surprize: there are three or four Rooms still upon the same Floor, filled with Wonder: nothing can be finer than the Pictures in them.

In most of the Apartments are Marble Chimneypieces of the most exquisite Workmanship, all carved
in Italy; with many curious Statues, Basso-relievoes,
and Pictures of the most famous Masters. The Loggio
in the Bowling-green (which has Pillars beautifully
rusticated, and is enriched with Niches and Statues),
the Grotto (the Front of which is curiously carved without, as it is all Marble within, and has black Pillars of
the Ionic Order, with Capitals of white Marble, and
four fine Basso-relievos from Florence), the Stables,
and other Offices, are all Beauties in their Kind, which
would tire Description.

The Collections of Head-pieces, Coats of Mail, and other Armour, for both Horse and Men, are also a Curiosity. They shew those of King Henry VIII. Edward VI. and of an Earl of Pembroke, nick-named Biack Jack, which he wore, when he besieged and took Boulogne in France, being the General who commanded in Chief under the King: they are very curious and embossed. Twelve other complete Suits of Armour, of extraordinary Workmanship, are also there; the rest, being about 100, are only for common

Horsemen.

The Garden Front is justly esteemed one of the best.
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Pieces of the renowned Inigo Jones, and is 194 Feet

long.

The Gardens are on the South of the House, and extend themselves beyond the River; a Branch of which runs through one Part of them. Over this River was erected, by the Father of the present Earl, one of the most beautiful Bridges in England; on which is an open Colonnade of the Ionic Order.

After you have passed this Bridge, you ascend a fine sloping Hill, the Top of which is set off by a wild Sort

of Plantation.

On the Summit of this Hill his Lordship built a Summer-room; and from hence you have a charming Prospect of the City of Sarum and the North-side of its Cathedral.

And still South of the Gardens is the great Park, which reaches beyond the Vale: the View opens to the great Down, which is properly called, by way of Distinction, Salisbury-plain, and leads from the City of Salisbury to Shaftsbury. Here also his Lordship had an Hare warren, as it is called, though improperly. It has indeed been a Sanctuary for the Hares for many Years; but the Gentlemen complain, that it mars their Game; for that, as foon as they put up an Hare for their Sport, if it be any where within two or three Miles, away she runs for the Warren, and there is an End of their Pursuit. On the other Hand, it makes all the Country-men turn Poachers, and destroy the Hares, by what Means they can. The Father of the present Earl of Pembroke, who had a fine Taste in Architecture, made a further Improvement with regard to Prospect, at this noble House, throwing down the Walls of the Garden, and making, instead them, Haw-haw Walls, which afford a boundless View all around the Country from every Quarter.

If his Lordship had proceeded with the Design, which, I was told, he once had Thoughts of prosecut-

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ing, that is, to erect a Stone henge in Miniature, as it was supposed to be in its Perfection, according to Dr. Stukely, on the Hill in his Garden, which, as I have observed, overlooks the whole Country round, and on which is an Equestrian Statue of the Emperor Marcus Aurelianus, it would have added to the Curiosities of Wilton, and been the Admiration of Foreigners, as well as Natives: for who, that sees that stupendous Piece of Antiquity in its Ruins, would not have been desirous to behold it, as it was in its supposed flourishing State?

Upon the highest Eminence, which overlooks Wilton, and the fertile Valley at the Union of the Nadder and Willy, is the noted Place called King-barrow, mentioned p. 289. This is certainly Celtic, says Dr. Stukely, and, with great Probability, the very Tomb of that Carvilius, who attacked Cæsar's Sea-camp in order to divert his renowned Enemy from his close Pursuit of Cassibelan. This Prince is supposed to have kept his Royal Residence at Carvilium, now Wilton, near which Place King Edgar's Queen spent the latter Part of her Life, in a religious Retirement; and for that Purpose

built an House there.

About three Miles from Salisbury is Longford, the Seat of the Lord Viscount Folkstone. It is fituated in a pleasant Valley; the Avon running through his Lordship's Garden. The House, built in King James the First's time, is in a triangular Form, with round Towers at each Corner; in which are the Dining-room, Library, and Chapel. The Rooms, though not large, are very pleasant, chearful, and elegantly decorated in the modern Taste; and, though richly furnished, yet the Decorations of the Rooms, and the Furniture, do not appear over-gaudy; a Fault one sees in some other Places. The Gallery is very fine, and contains some admirable Pictures of the greatest Masters. At each End of this Gallery hang two Landschapes of Claud Lorrain.

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Lorrain; the one a Rising, the other a Setting Sun; which are esteemed two of the best Pieces, now in the Kingdom, of that great Master.

The Pictures, Furniture, and Fitting up of this Gal.

lery, it is faid, cost 10,000 l.

The triangular Form of this House is so singular, that there is but one more of the same Form in England; and which was built by the same Person, at about fix Miles Distance.

Near Lord Folkstone's, on the other Side of the River, are the Seats of Lord Feversham, of Sir George Vandeput, &c. which are so situated on the rising Hills, as to command a Prospect of the Meadows, through

which the River Avon ferpentizes.

The Road from Wilton to Shaftesbury, called The Ten Mile Course, is a fine Ridge of Downs, continued upon the Southern Bank of the River Nadder, with a sweet Prospect to the Right and Lest all the Way over the Downs, and the Country on both Sides. The Grandsather of the present Earl of Pembroke placed a numbered Stone at every Mile. Between the fish and sixth Mile is a pretty large Camp, called Chifelbury, probably Roman, in the Decline of the Empire. At the End of this Course are three or sour Celtic Barrows. In this Hill is a Quarry of Stone, very full of Sea-shells. Not far off, in the Parish of Tisbury, near Warder Castle, is a great Intrenchment in a Wood, which was probably a British Town near the Nadder.

The Downs and Plains in this Part of England being fo open, and the Surface so little subject to Alteration, there are more Remains of Antiquity to be seen upon them, than in other Places; and, as they tell us, no less than 53 antient Encampments, or Fortifications, were in this one County: some of which are very visible, and are of different Forms, and erected by different Nations; as British, Danish, Saxon, and Roman;

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particularly at Ebb-down, Burywood, Oldburgh-bill. Cummer ford, Roundway-down, St. Ann's bill, Brattoncaffle, Clay-bill, Stourton-park, Whitecole-ball, Battlebury, Scrathbury, Yanesbury, Frippsbury, Suthbury-hill, Ambresbury, before described, Great Bedwyn, Easterley, Merdon, Aubery, Barbury-castle, &c. At Aubery, or Aukbury, in particular, on the East-side of the Avon, by Great-Dornford, is a very large Camp, covering the whole Top of an Hill. On the other Side of the River, a little higher up, is Vespasian's Camp, called The Walls. Near these are two other Camps; which seem Remains of Vespasian's Victories, and intimate, that he

fubdued the Country by Inches.

North of these is Martin's - hall-Hill, a vast Stationary Roman Camp. On two Sides the Precipice is dreadfully steep. The Earl of Winchelfea has a Brass Alexander Severus found here; on the Reverse, Jupiter Fulminans. On the West-side, at-top of the Hill, without the Camp, is a round Pit, of good Spring-water, always full to the Brim in the drieft Summers (but never overflowing); which, at those Seasons, is of the greatest Service to the Country round; and thousands of Cattle are every Day driven thither, from a confiderable Distance, to drink. I am informed, there is such another upon the Top of Chute-hill, South-east from hence, very high, and no other Water within some Miles of it. The Prospect from Martin's-hall-Hill is exceeding fine.

At Farle, not far from Clarendon Park, was the Birth-place of Sir Stephen Fox, and where the Town, sharing in his good Fortune, shews several Marks of his Bounty; as particularly the building a new Church from the Foundation, and getting an Act of Parliament passed for making it Parochial, it being but a Chapel of Ease before to an adjoining Parish: Sir Stephen also built and endowed an Alms-house here for fix poor Women, with a Master, and a Free-school. The Master is to be a Clergyman, and to officiate in the

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the Church; which, including the School, is a good Maintenance.

lought not to omit mentioning the Tapestry Ma. nusacture at Wilton; which was carried on, under the Patronage of the Earl of Pembroke; and which is a great Benefit to the Town; as it will be, if encouraged as it deserves, to the whole Kingdom. The English Genius for Improvement is well known: and they are already arrived to great Persection in making Tapestry, and Carpets of all Sorts.

I am now to pursue my first Design, and shall take the West Part of Wiltshire in my Return, where are several things to be still taken notice of. In the mean time I went on to Langbro', a fine Seat of the late Lord

Colerain.

From hence, in my Way to the Sea-side, I came to New-Forest, of which I have said something before, with relation to the great Extent of Ground, which lies waste, and had formerly a vast Quantity of large

Timber upon it.

This Part of the Country is a lasting Monument of the Tyranny and Oppression of William I. who laid it open and waste for a Forest, and for Game; for which Purpose he unpeopled the Country, pulled down the Houses, and the Churches, of several Parishes and Towns, and of Abundance of Villages, turning the poor People out of their Habitations and Possessions, for the Sake of his Deer. The same Histories likewise record, that two of his own Sons, and particularly his immediate Successor William Rufus, lost their Lives in this Forest; William Rufus being shot with an Arrow directed at a Deer, which, glancing on a Tree, changed its Course, and, striking the King full on the Breat, killed him. And another Son, whilst in hot Pursuit of the Game, was caught up by the Boughs of a Tree, and hanged like Absalom. These they relate as Judg. ments: and they still shew the Tree on which the Arrow ts.

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Arrow glanced that flew Rufus. In King Charles II.'s time, the Tree was ordered to be furrounded with a Pale, great Part of which is now fallen down: and whether the Tree they shew us, be really so old, or not, is to me a great Question, the Fact being above 600 Years ago.

I cannot omit mentioning here a Proposal made some Years ago to the Lord Treasurer Godolphin, for repeopling this Forest; which I can be more particular in \*, than any other Man, because I had the Honour to draw up the Scheme, and argue it before that noble Lord, and some others, who were principally concerned, at that time, in bringing over, or rather providing for, when they were come over, the poor Inhabitants of the Palatinate; a thing in itself commendable; but, as it was managed, made of no Benesit to England, and miserable to those poor People.

Some Persons being ordered by the noble Lord abovementioned, to consider of Measures how those People should be provided for, without Injury to the Public, NEW-FOREST in Hampshire was singled out to be the Place for them.

Here it was proposed to draw a great square Line, containing 4000 Acres of Land, marking out two large Highways or Roads through the Centre, croffing both Ways; so that there should be 1000 Acres in each Division, exclusive of the Land contained in the said Cross-roads.

Then to fingle out 20 Men, and their Families, who should be recommended, as honest industrious People, expert in Husbandry, or at least capable of being influcted in it. To each of these should be parcelled, but in equal Distributions, 200 Acres of this Land; so that the whole 4000 Acres should be distributed to the said 20 Families; for which they should have no Rent to pay, and be liable to no Taxes, but such as would provide for their own Sick or Poor, repairing their Vol. I.

<sup>\*</sup> The Writer of this Part, was the famous Daniel de Foe,

Hants.

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own Roads, &c. This Exemption to continue for 20 Years, and then to pay each 50%. a Year to the Crown.

To each of these Families it was proposed to advance 200 l. in ready Money, as a Stock to set them to work, and to hire and pay Labourers to inclose, clear, and cure the Land; which, it was supposed, the first Year, could not be so much to their Advantage, as following Years; allowing them Timber out of the Forest to build themselves Houses and Barns, Sheds and Offices, as they should have Occasion; also for Carts, Waggons, Ploughs, Harrows, and the like necessary Implements.

These 20 Families would, by the Consequence of their own Settlements, employ and maintain such a Proportion of others of their own People, that the whole Number of Palatines would have been provided for, had they been many more than they were; and that without being any Burden upon, or Injury to, the People of England; on the contrary, they would have been an Advantage, and an Addition of Wealth and Strength, to the Nation, and to the Country, in parti-

cular, where they should be thus seated.

Two Things would have been answered by the Execution of this Scheme; viz.

1. That the annual Rent to be received for all those Lands, after 20 Years, would abundantly pay the

Public for the first Disburses.

2. More Money than would have done this, was thrown away upon them here, to keep them in Suspence, and afterwards starve them; sending them a begging all over the Nation, and shipping them off to perish in other Countries.

The Spot, where the Design was laid out, was near Lindhurst, in the Road from Romsey to Lymington; whither I now directed my Course.

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Lymington is a little, but populous Sea-port, standing opposite to the Isle of Wight, in the narrow Part of the Streight, through which Ships sometimes pass in fair Weather, called the Needles; and right against the antient Town of South-Yarmouth, in that Isle. Town of Lymington is chiefly noted for returning two Members to Parliament, and for making excellent Salt: from whence all thefe South Parts of England are

fupplied, as well by Water, as Land-carriage.

From hence are but few Towns on the Sea-coast West: though several considerable Rivers empty themselves into the Sea: nor are there any Harbours or Sea-ports of Note, except Pool; which I shall take notice of in my next Letter. As for Christ-church. though it stands at the Mouth of the Avon, which. as I have faid, comes down from Salisbury, and brings with it all the Waters of the South and East Parts of Wiltsbire, and receives also the Stour and Piddle, two Dorfetshire Rivers, which bring with them all the Waters of the North Part of Dorfetshire, yet it is a very inconfiderable poor Place, scarce worth feeing, although it returns two Members to Parliament.

But here I will close this my Fifth Letter, with

affuring you, that I am,

Yours, &c.

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## LETTER VI.

Containing a Description of the County of Dorset,

Part of Somersetshire, Devonshire,

Cornwall, &c.

SIR, of simulation larger

TNOW enter into the County of Dorfet; and first I rode North-west into it, to see the antient Town of Wimburn, or Wimburnminster. The Churches hereabouts, as well as the neighbouring County of Hants, called Minsters, were built by the Saxon Kings on their Conversion to Christianity. The Town stands in a large extended fertile Vale, like a Meadow, with much Wood about it. The Rivers abound with Fish. Here was a Nunnery built in the Year 712. by Cuthberga, Sifter to King Ina. The Church is a very great one, antient, and well-built, with a very firm, strong square Tower, considerably high; but was, without doubt, much nobler, when on the Top of it flood a most exquisite Spire, finer, and taller, if Fame may may be credited, than that of Salisbury; and, by its Situation, in a plainer, flatter Country, visible, no question, much farther: but this most beautiful Ornament was blown down by a fudden Tempest of Wind, as they tell us, in the Year 1622.

In this Church are the Monuments of several noble Families, and of King Etheldred, who was slain in Battle by the Danes. He was a Prince samed for Piety; and, according to the Zeal of those Times, was esteemed a Martyr; because he died fighting for his Religion and his Country, against the Pagan Danes. The Inscription upon his Grave is preserved, and has been carefully repaired, so as easily to be read, and is 25

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In hoc loco quiescit Corpus S. Etheldredi, Regis West Saxonum, Martyris, qui Anno Dom: DCCCLXXII. xxiii. Aprilis, per Manus. Danorum Paganorum occubuit.

That is,

Here rests the Body of St. Etheldred, King of the West Saxons, and Martyr, who sell by the Hands of the Pagan Danes, in the Year of our Lord 872. the 23d of April.

Here also are the Monuments of the great Marchionels of Exeter, Mother of Edward Courtney, Earl of Devonshire, and last of the Family of Courtneys, who enjoyed that Honour; as also of John de Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, and his Wife, Grandmother of King Henry VII. by her Daughter Margaret, Countess of Richmond.

This last Lady I mention, because she was Foundress of a very fine Free-school; which has since been inlarged, and had a new Benefactress in Queen Elizabeth, who augmented the Stipend, and annexed it to the Foundation. The famous Cardinal Pool was Dean of this Church before his Exaltation.

The Inhabitants of Wimburnminster are numerous, but poor, and chiefly maintained by the Manufacture of knitting Stockens; which employs great Part of the County of Dorset; of which this is the first Town Eastward.

Wimburn St. Giles's in this Neighbourhood, is a very handsome Seat belonging to the Earl of Shaftesbury.

From hence I went to Ringwood, upon the River Avon, over a deep fandy Moor. It is a large thriving Place, full of good new Brick Houses, seated by the Side of a great watery Valley; the River dividing itself into several Streams, and frequently overflowing large Quantities of the Meadow. Here they deal pretty much in Leather, Stockens, Druggets, and narrow Cloth.

P 3

South

South of Wimburn, over a fandy, wild, and barren Country, we came to Pool, the most considerable Seaport in this Part of England, and which returns two Members to Parliament.

This Place is noted for the best and biggest Oysters, in all this Part of England; which the People of Pool pretend to be excellent for pickling; and they are barreled up here, and sent not only to London, but to the West Indies, and to Spain, Italy, and other Parts. It is observed, more Pearls are found in the Pool Oysters, and larger, than in any others in England.

The Entrance into the large Bay of Pool is narrow; it is made still narrower by Branksey Island, which, lying in the very Mouth of the Passage, divides it into two, and where is an old Castle, called Branksey Castle, built to desend the Entrance, but without Guns at

present, though we are at War with France.

Pool is a neat, compact, well-built Town, much increafed within these few Years: the Houses are mostly built of Stone. The Parish-church is large, a Royal Peculiar. Here are a Town-house, Custom house, a convenient Quay, and public Warehouses. Bay furnishes it with Fish in abundance of different There is a great Refort to their Markets and Fairs; which will probably be much augmented, when the Turnpike-roads now making are completely finished. The Inhabitants will also reap from thence a farther Benefit, by Persons coming to bathe in the Salt-water, for which no Place can be more proper, as there is a sufficient Depth at all times, and as, for the large Tract that it covers, it must be considerably stronger and warmer in its Reflux, than it otherwise would be.

The Mouth of the Harbour is about three Miles South from Pool; the Depth there at High-water is about 16 Feet; and when once Ships are in, they ride in any of the Branches of the Bay, as fafely and commodiously as can be desired. This capacious Haven lies in the Midst between Purbeck and the Isle of Wight,

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Wight, and is faid to enjoy one Advantage over all other Ports, perhaps in Britain, which is, that the Sea ebbs and flows four times in 24 Hours. First, with a South east and North-west Moon; and then by a South-and-by-east, and a North and-by-west Moon; which second Flood is generally supposed to arise from the Return of the Fore-Ebb, which coming from the Suffex Coast, between the Isle of Wight and the Continent of Hampshire, strikes in here, as lying in its Way.

The principal Branch of the foreign Commerce of its Inhabitants is the Newfoundland Fishery, to which they fend every Spring, in time of Peace, upwards of 70 Sail of Vessels, from the Burden of 100 to 150 Tons, laden with Provisions, Nets, Cordage, Sailcloth, and all Sorts of Wearing apparel, with Variety of other Commodities, for the Confumption of the Inhabitants and their Servants. The smaller Vessels fish on the Banks, and make two or three Trips every Season. Their Returns are in Cod, Oil, Skins, and Furs; and in Autumn they export their Fish to Spain, Italy, and Portugal. This is a Trade not more profitable to those concerned, than beneficial in general to the Kingdom, as it sublists a prodigious Number of Hands, occasions a great Export of our Commodities and Manufactures, and breeds excellent Seamen. Besides this, they employ some Ships in the Carolina Trade, for which Pool is very conveniently situated, lying directly in the Way to Holland and Hamburgh, the Port Charges, Labour in shipping and reshipping their Rice, being but infignificant. They fend also two Vessels annually to Guiney, and twice as many to the West-Indies. Their Coast-trade to London and Newcastle is to a large Amount, by which they export great Quantities of Corn; and by their Returns supply the Consumption of Blandford, Ringwood, and many other adjacent Places. There are in the whole, about 200 Vessels of various Sizes belonging to the Harbour. In time of War they have hithert fuffered extremely, and as this is so exceedingly detrimenta

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This

trimental to a Trade, which is so apparently service able to the Royal Navy, it deserves Notice, and, in Consequence of that, no doubt, will obtain the most immediate Redress and effectual Protection.

Pool is a Borough and County of itself, governed by

a Mayor, &c.

Wareham has been a Roman Town. There has been a Castle by the Water-side, West of the Bridge, built by King William I. perhaps upon the Roman. It is an old Corporation, now decayed, the Sands obstructing the Passage of the Vessels; yet returns two Members to Parliament. Here, they say, have been a Mint, and 17 Parish Churches; of which three only remain; and they supplied by one Minister. I saw a ruinous Religious House, as I passed by the River Frome. Two Rocks about Corf-Castle have an odd Appearance hence.

The Tower of St. Mary's is its chief Ornament, It had formerly a Wall and a strong Castle, which have been long since demolished. It consists now only of two Streets, crossing each other; and they but meanly built. However, it has still a Market, is governed by a Mayor, &c. The chief Trade here is

in Tobacco-pipe Clay.

South of Wareham, and between the Bay I have mentioned and the Sea, lies a large Track of Land; which being surrounded by the Sea, except on one Side, is called an Island, though it is really more properly a Peninsula. This Track of Land is better inhabited than the Sea-coast of the West End of Dorset-shire generally is; and the Manusacture of Stockens is carried on there also. It is called the Isle of Purbeck, and is about 10 Miles long and 6 broad, and has in the Middle of it a large Market-town, called Corf; and, from the samous Castle there, the whole Town is now called Corf-Castle. It is governed by a Mayor, Aldermen, &c. and returns two Members to Parliament.

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This Part of the Country is eminent for vast Quarries of Stone, which is cut out flat, and used in London, in great Quantities, for paving Court-yards, Alleys, Avenues to Houses, Kitchens, Foot-ways on the Sides of the High-streets, and the like; and is very profitable to the Place, as also in the Number of Shipping employed in bringing it to London. There are several Rocks of very good Marble, only that the Veins in the Stone are not black and white, as the Italian, but grey, red, and other Colours. The best Tobacco-pipe Clay is found within two Miles of Corf-Castle, and likewise in Hangerstone-bill, in the Neighbourhood of Pool, sold at London for 30 s. per Ton.

From hence to Weymouth we rode in View of the Sea. The Country is open, and, in some respects, pleasant; but not like the Northern Parts of the County, which are all fine Carpet-ground, and the Herbage so sweet, that their Sheep are esteemed the best in Eng-

land, and their Wool extremely fine.

From hence we turned up to Dorchester, the County-town. It is regular and clean. The Ikeningstreet enters it by the North of Winterburn at Westgate. This is, by the ignorant Country people, referred to the Work of the Devil, who, they fay, cast it up in a Night's time. The Foundations of the antient Roman Wall appear quite round the Town; but Eastward a Street is built upon it, and the Ditch filled up: it is still called The Walls; for that Way the Town is swelled out into a considerable Village with a Church, and handsome Tower, named Fordington. There are three other Churches in the Town. On the South and West side, without the Walls, an handfome Walk of Trees is planted, looking pleafantly into the Country; though, being common Sycamores, they are inconvenient by harbouring Flies. The Banks of the River Frome are steep; for the Town. stands on high Ground. Beyond the River are Meadows, and warm fandy Lands; on this Side, the fine P 5 chalky:

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chalky Downs, pleasant for Riding, and profitable in excellent Grain. The Air must needs be wholesome. the Climate warm, and a fufficient Distance from the It was almost totally burnt down in the Year 1613. The Loss in Houses, Goods, &c. was computed at 200,000 l. It is governed by a Mayor, Aldermen, Bailiffs, and capital Burgesses, and sends two Members to Parliament. Its Market, which is very confiderable, is on Saturday; and its chief Trade is in fine Serges, Sheep, and Ale, which is much efteemed, Here are a Town-hall, a Shire-hall, and County Gaol, a famous Free-school, and several Alms-houses. the Time of the Romans, it was one of their Winter Stations, was walled in, and had a Caftle, which were all demolished afterwards by the Danes. The People of Fordington role in Arms, and prevented the Farmers from leveling a great Barrow. The late Rev. Mr. Place, known for his Philosophical Works, lived here, and possessed a great Quantity of Roman Coins, called here Dorn-money, or King Dor's Money. Near this Place is a Roman Camp, and a noble Roman Amphitheatre, which the Vulgar call Maumbury; but have no Notion of its Purpose, though it is a common Excursion for the Inhabitants; and the Terrace on the Top is a noted Place of Rendezvous, affording an agreeable circular Walk, a Prospect of the Town, and wide Plains of Corn-fields all around.

The Manor of Fordington or Forthington belongs to the Duchy of Cornwall. The common Highway, or public Road from London, the Town of Blandford, and other Places East of Dorsetshire, lie over Part of the said Common or Moor, through a considerable Length of Waters, subject to Floods in the time of heavy Rains, and through a Ford on the River Frome, which is a very dangerous Passage both for Horses and Carriages, and, in times of Floods, utterly impassable. Sensible of these Inconveniences, a public-spirited Lady, Mrs. Lora Pitt, proposed to obtain an Act of Parlia-

per Groves of Trees for Cover for the Fowl. In the open Lake, or broad Part, is a continual Assembly of Swans: here they live, feed, and breed; and the Number of them is such, that, I believe, I did not fee so few as 7 or 8000. We saw several of them upon the Wing, very high in the Air; whence, we supposed, they slew over the Riff of Beach, which parts the Lake from the Sea, to feed on the Shores.

From this Decoy West the Lake narrows, and at last almost closes, till the Beach joins the Shore; and so Portland may be said not to be an Island, but Part of

the Continent.

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And now we came to Abbotfbury, a Town antiently famous for a great Monastery, and now eminent for

nothing but its Ruins.

From hence we went on to Bridgert, a pretty large, but not well-built Corporation-town on the Sea-shore; it stands in a low dirty Soil, and confifts principally of two Streets. In one from East to West, is the great Western Road, which is the chief Support of its Trade; and the other from North to South, in which stands the Church. Saturday is its Market-day. It is governed by two Bailiffs, a Recorder, & and fends two Mem-The adjacent Country was once bers to Parliament. famous for producing the best Hemp, and the Town for breeding the best Artists in Ropes, Cables, Nets, &c. The Corporation has been fince much reduced, which has been imputed to the choaking up of its Harbour, and to the Decay of their once flourishing Hemp Manufacture.

Here we saw Boats all the Way on the Shore fishing for Mackrel; which they take in the easiest Manner imaginable, and in such prodigious Plenty, that there has been a Watch set to prevent Farmers from dunging their Land with them, which, it was thought, might

be apt to infect the Air.

In the Year 1722. an Act passed for restoring and rebuilding the Haven and Piers of Bridgert, in order to bring it to its antient sourishing State; for hereto-

tore

fore it was a Place of great Trade and Commerce; but, by reason of a general Sickness, which swept away the greatest Part of its most wealthy Inhabitants, and by other Accidents, the Haven became neglected, and choaked with Sands; the Piers fell to Ruin, and the Town, of consequence, to Decay; so that there was no Security for Ships that happened to be driven by Stress of Weather into the deep and dangerous Bay, wherein the Haven formerly was, which occasioned frequent Shipwrecks. The Act therefore authorizes the Bailiss and Burgesses of Bridport, to levy certain Tolls and Duties on divers Merchandizes, &c. in order to restore the said Piers and Harbour.

From Bridport we came to Lyme, called Lyme Regis. It is governed by a Mayor, Recorder, & c. and returns

two Members to Parliament.

In Leland's Time it was in a good Condition; but Camden speaks slightly of its Harbour, and as serving only for Fishing Barks. The Trade, however, revived in the Reign of King James I. the Inhabitants striking into a considerable Trade to Newfoundland, France, Spain, and the Streights. It must be said, that Lyme-Regis has neither Creek or Bay, Road or River; yet has an Harbour so constructed, that the like is not to be found either in this Kingdom or any other; and feems to be of the Inhabitants own Contrivance.

The Materials for it were vast Rocks weighed up out of the Sea, with empty Casks (at what Time we know not) which Casks being placed in a regular Order to a considerable Breadth, and carried out a great Way, some say 300 Yards, the Interstices being filled up with Earth, high and thick Walls of Stone were built upon those Rocks, in the main Sea, and so thick, that large Buildings (among them a handsome Custom-house upon Pillars, with a Corn market under it, and Warehouses) have been erected thereon. Opposite to this, but farther into the Sea, is another Wall of the same Workmanship, which crosses the End of the first, and comes about with a Tail parallel to that. But the

Point of the first or main Wall, is the Entrance into the Port, and the second or opposite Wall breaking the Violence of the Sea from the Entrance; the Ships go into the Basin, and, being defended from all Winds, ride there, as secure as in a Mill-pond or Wet dock.

This fingular Work, which answers the Intention of a Pier, is called *The Cobbe*; and for keeping it in conftant Repair (which is done at the Expence of the Town, and proves sometimes very chargeable) there

are annually chosen two Cobbe-Wardens.

The unfortunate Duke of Monmouth, having with him a Frigate of 30 Guns, and two Merchant Ships, landed here June 11. 1685. Many of his Party were afterwards put to Death on the Spot, and their Limbs

hung up in the Town.

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Lyme might be strengthened by a Fort, but as the Walls of the Cobbe are firm enough to carry what Guns they please to plant upon them, they did not seem to think it needful, especially as the Shore is convenient for Batteries; they have therefore some Guns planted in proper Places, for the Desence of the Cobbe and the Town.

Nevertheless it suffered by the French War in the Reign of Queen Anne; but is recovered fince; many handsome Stone Houses have been lately built by Merchants residing there; and it might be rendered of much greater Importance than it is, if any new Manufacture could be introduced in the Country behind it; which is certainly plentiful enough to admit not only of one, but of many Improvements. It is not, however, unlikely, that if the Inhabitants of this Part recurred to the very Arts, from which, according to the best Authorities, the Town derived its Existence near 1000 Years ago, that is, making Salt, it might very speedily and effectually answer their Purposes, since by the Help of shallow Marshes (into which the Seawater being admitted, the Use of the Work could be eafily performed by the Heat of the Sun, as is done on the opposite Coast of France); as good Salt as any might

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might be produced; for which the Place feems to be exceedingly well fituated, and to have very commodious Advantages, as their Concern in the Fishery would furnish an immediate Market for all they could possibly make.

Before we leave Lyme-Regis, it may not be amiss to mention, that, notwithstanding modern as well as antient Writers speak of the Construction of this Port, as something very singular and extraordinary, yet none have proposed the Imitation of it, though there cannot be a more pregnant Instance than this, of the Possibility of making (though it may be in a better Manner) a Port upon almost any Part of our Coast, where the Conveniency of the Country required, or the opening such a Port should appear the most probable Means of improving it; one or other of which Circumstances, would turn such Ports to the Advantage of most of the maritime Counties in this Island. After all, Lyme, considering the Bigness of it, may pass for a Place of Wealth.

Here we found the Merchants began to trade in the Pilchard Fishing, though not to so considerable a Degree, as they do farther West; the Pilchards seldom coming up so high Eastward as Portland, and not very

often fo high as Lyme.

I visited from hence some of the Towns in the North-west Part of this Country; as Blandford (in the Road between Salisbury and Dorchester), an handsome well-built Town, pleasantly seated in a Flexure of the River, before charming Meadows, and rich Lands. Wood thrives exceedingly here. Indeed this Country is a fine Variety of Downs, Woods, Lawns, Arable and Pasture Land, rich Valleys, and an excellent Air. The dry Easterly Winds, the cold Northern, and the Western Moisture, are tempered by the warm Southern saline Breezes, wasted hither from the Ocean. But Blandford is chiefly samous for making the finest Bone-lace in England; where they shewed me, in my first Visit to it, some so exquisitely fine, as I think I never

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never faw better in Flanders, France, or Italy; and which, they faid, they rated at above 301. Sterling a Yard.

This was the State and the Trade of the Town, when I was there in my first Journey: but June 4. 1731. the whole Town, except 26 Houses, was confumed by Fire, together with the Church. The Confernation of the People was so great, and the Fire so surious, that sew saved any Goods.

An Act passed in 1732, for the better and more easy Rebuilding of this Town, and for determining Differences touching Houses and Buildings burnt down or

demolished therein; and, as several wise Regulations were made by it, Blandford now makes a much better

Appearance than ever.

It is governed by two Bailiffs. Formerly it sent two Members to Parliament; but it has lost that Privilege. Antiently it was noted for the Manufacture of Bandstrings, as it is now for Straw hats, as well as for Bone-laces. It is pleasantly situated on the Banks of the Stour; and is surrounded with a great Number of Gentlemens Seats, and has a good Market on Saturdays.

From Blandford I took a Turn to view one of the largest and most stately Fabrics in the Kingdom: I mean the House belonging to the Right Hon. George Dodington, Esq. It is situated in the Parish of Gunville, four Miles from Blandford, and six from Shaftesbury and Cranborn. The House, Gardens, and Park, containing about eight Miles in Circumserence, are

now called Eastbury.

You approach this House through a beautiful little Lawn; and, passing through the grand Arcade, on each Side of which the Offices are ranged, you land from a Flight of Steps of 11 Feet high, under a noble Daric Portico, crowned with a Pediment extending 62 Feet, the Pillars whereof are 46 Feet high: from whence you enter a most magnificent Hall, adorned with many Statues and Busts.

The

Dorset.

The Salon is one of the finest Rooms in the Kingdom; and is beautifully and richly decorated. At one End of this Salon are three noble Apartments; one hung with Crimson Velvet, another with slowered Velvet, and the third with Satin; all richly laced with Gold. At the other End are a Drawing-room and large Dining room. The Marble Tables in these Rooms are exceedingly curious, and of great Value: they were purchased out of one of the Italian Palaces.

The main Body of the House extends 144 Feet, and is 95 Feet in Depth; to which join the Arcades, which form the great Court. This Court is 160 Feet in Breadth, in the Clear; and its Depth, from the House to the Entrance, is 210 Feet. The Arcades are 10 Feet wide. The Offices, placed on each Side these Arcades, in the Centre of them, extend each 133 Feet, and are in Depth 161 Feet. The inner Court of these Offices are 160 Feet by 80, in the Clear. Beyond these, other Buildings are carried in the same Line, 50 Feet each Way, and which form two other Courts; fo that the whole Front of the Building and Offices extends 570 Feet. These Buildings being of different Heights, and the beautiful Turrets at each Corner of the House, with their Venetian Windows, rifing above all the rest, give the whole Structure a very grand Appearance.

The Gardens, to make them equal with the House, will require a great deal of Alteration; they being at first ill laid out. Water is here very much wanting, and more Plantations of Wood would greatly improve

the Spot.

A little Mile distant from Blandford, I visited Mr. Portman's Cliff, as a Curiosity. It is a Hill planted in the modern Taste, which is a beautiful and simple Irregularity, with many stately Trees. The fine Turs and soft mostly Walks, the easy Decline in some Places, and the steep Descent in others, render the whole delightful.

lightful. It is already extended to a confiderable Diftance, and defigned to be carried, in a femicircular Form, near two Miles towards Blandford, a View of which is presented to the Eye. But what adds much to the Charms of this Place, is the River Stour, which runs in sweet Meanders in the Valley below. Upon the whole, it is one of the most superb and pleasing Scenes of the Kind I ever saw.

There is nothing remarkable in the Hou'e. It is new-fronted, and makes an agreeable Figure. Mr. Portman has formed a Plan for great Improvement, for which there is sufficient Room, both as in the Order of the Out houses and the Flantations. The whole Space, except the Cliff, lay rude and undigested when I

was there (Anno 1757).

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From Blandford I went West to Stourbridge, which, and the Country round, are employed in the Manufacture of Stockens: it was once famous for making the finest, best, and highest-pric'd Knit Stockens in England; but that Trade is much decayed by the Increase of the Knitting-stocken Engine, or Frame, which has destroyed the Hand Knitting-trade, sor fine Stockens, through the whole Kingdom; of which I shall speak in another Place.

From hence I came to Shireburn, a large and populous Town, with one Collegiate or Conventual Church, a Free school, and an Alms-house; and it may justly boast to have more Inhabitants in it, than any Town in Dorsetshire, though it is neither the County-town, nor sends Members to Parliament. It was once a Bishop's See; which was removed to Salisbury. The Church is still a Reverend Pile, and

thews the Face of great Antiquity.

Shireburn flourished by the Cloth manufacture, which was once the main Support of Dorchester, but is now in a great Measure removed into Somersetshire. It is divided into two Parts, both of which are governed by two Constables annually chosen.

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Shaftesbury is also on the Edge of this County, adjoining to Wiltshire, being 14 Miles from Salisbury, over that fine Down or Carpet Ground, called Salif. bury plain. It is fituated upon the Top of an high Hill, and which closes the Plain or Downs, and whence a new Scene is presented; viz. a Prospect of Somerset. shire and Wiltshire, where it is all inclosed, and grown with Woods, Forests, and planted Hedge-rows; the Country rich, fertile, and populous; the Towns and Houses standing thick, and being large, and full of Inhabitants, and those Inhabitants fully employed in the richest and most valuable Manufacture in the World; viz. the English Cloathing, as Whites, both for the Home and Foreign Trade; on which I shall be more particular in my Return through the West and North Parts of Wiltshire.

Shaftesbury, a few Years ago, received some Improvement from the Generolity of a neighbouring Gentleman, and particularly in a fine Plantation on the Top of Park bill, which he was so kind as to indulge the Inhabitants with for a Place of Walking and Diversion; but attempting, on the Strength of his good Offices to the Town, to recommend to them one Member of Parliament out of two, he met not with the grateful Return he might have expected, Violence having been done to the very Plantation he had so generously devoted to the Service and Pleasure of the In-

habitants.

Shaftesbury is a great Thoroughfare and Post Road, which causes it to be much frequented. It has three Churches. The Houses are most of them built with Free-stone. It has a very good Market on Saturdays, is governed by a Mayor, two Aldermen, &c. and fends two Members to Parliament.

We were very desirous to visit Stourton, the fine Seat of Mr. Heare. The Road to it from Shaftesbury by Henley and Narrow lane, was not the most agreeable to us, who had so lately traveled over the sweet Downs of Wiltshire. The Distance is about 10

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Miles; but the House being situated on a high Ground, soon presents itself to View. Passing through Mere, we arrived at this delightful Seat, which is sometimes called Stour-head, from its being near the Head of the River Stour.

This House is built of Stone, pretty near a Square; not very large, yet the exterior Part has an Air of Grandeur, which is heightened by the Eastern Front, having a double Flight of Stone Steps, supported by Ballusters. The Furniture and Disposition of the Rooms appear comfortable, as well as grand and convenient.

The Salon has something peculiarly pleasing, having at once all the Charms of a grand Apartment, and all the Comfort of a small one; for, though it is 60 Feet long, 30 broad, and 30 in Height, it has but one Door into it. It is adorned with eight capital Pictures.

The Florence Boxes placed on the Marble Tables in this Salon, deserve Notice: they are set with many curious, and with some costly Oriental Stones.

In the Drawing-room is a Cabinet supported by a rich Frame or Pedestal, which was once the Case of an Organ. This Cabinet formerly belonged to Pope Sixtus V. The Essigner of this Pope and the Peretti Family, from whom one of his Nephews descended, are taken from the Life, and set in the Cabinet in round Recesses, with Glasses before them, in order to preserve them. The last of this Family was a Nun, who lest the Cabinet to a Convent in Rome, where Mr. Hoare made a Purchase of it.

In this and feveral other Apartments are many fine Paintings and Curiofities. The Library is well furnished.

The Lawn in the West-front salls with an easy Decline into a Valley, where stands the small Village of Stourton. On the Brow of this Hill is a Walk of considerable Extent, of the softest mosty Turf, bordered on each Side by stately Scotch Firs, of Mr. Hoare's own planting

planting near 30 Years ago. This noble broad Walk is terminated by an Obelisk 120 Feet high, built on the highest Ground: It has a Mythra, or Sun, of six Feet Diameter, in gilded Copper, at the Top. This Obelisk is divided from the Garden by an Haw-haw, but the View of the Sheep feeding at the Foot of it, has as delightful an Effect, as if there was no such Separation.

Upon the same Brow of the Hill, below this sine Walk, are several irregular Walks of different Breadths leading into the Valley. These are covered by stately Trees, and receive the most heightened Charms by a very large Piece of Water at the Bottom, on which is a pretty Boat. We made a Coassing Voyage on this little Ocean, in which we discovered several little Islands, which are either planted or covered with Rocks, inhabited only by the seathered Kind.

This Piece of Water is also rendered the more agreeable by a light Wooden Bridge of one Arch; another of more Cost and Beauty is intended to be built, to serve as a Communication with the opposite

Side.

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After passing the Bridge, the Ground is steep and losty, and covered with Wood. A narrow Path at the Bottom of it leads to the Grotto of the Nymph, which is formed in rude Rock-work almost level with the Water. Here is a Marble Bason of pure Water, which is made Use of as a Cold Bath. In the interior Part of the Nich over the Bason, is a Marble Statue of a sleeping Nymph, to whom the Grotto is dedicated. She is covered with a light Garment, which hardly conceals her Limbs. At the Foot of this Bath is a Marble Slab with these Lines from Mr. Pope.

Nymph of the Grot, the se sacred Springs I keep, And to the Murmur of these Waters sleep: Stop, gentle Reader, lightly tread the Cave, Or drink in Silence, or in Silence lave.

From

"Mr.

From the Grotto of the Nymph we proceeded to that adjoining, which is facred to the River God Stour, and to him inscribed by some Latin Verses. Here he sits in gloomy awful Majesty, in a very natural Attitude, with one of his Legs in a Bason of pure Water. This Grotto is formed in Rock-work, and arched with the same Materials, at the Foot of a steep Hill covered with Trees, which look venerably antient. The Statue is of Lead.

Advancing upon a more open and rifing Ground, under the Hill, is a Temple dedicated to Heroules. This is a Rotunda or Pantheon, calculated to receive in the Center a Pedestal of about three Feet high; and the Figure of this Hero to be set upor. it, is about eight. It is a beautiful Piece of Marble-work, weighing about eight Tons, the 10 Years Labour of the ingenious

Rysbrack.

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The Temple of Ceres is on the Side of the Water nearest to the Village: it has a Portico supported by Columns. The Figure of the Goddess, with her proper Emblems, fronts you as you open the Door. On each Side are two commodious Seats, which are made in Imitation of the Pulvinaria, or little Beds, which were placed near the Altar at the Time of Sacrifice, and on which the Pagans were wont to lay the Images

of their Gods in their Temples.

Eight or ten Feet below, level with the Water, in a subterraneous Grotto, is another Figure of the River God. 'Here,' says a very worthy Writer, to whose accurate Observations I have been obliged, for helping my Recollections, in the Description I have given of Mr. Hoare's Seat at Stourton, 'we ought to contemplate not only what delights, but what does not shock. In this delicious Abode, are no Chinese-works; no Monsters of Imagination; no Deviations from Nature, under the fond Notion of Fashion or Taste: All is grand or simple, or a beautiful Mixture of both.'

338 ATOUR thro' Somerset.
'Mr. Hoare,' adds the same Gentleman (written in the Year 1755), 'has formed his Plan for extend.
'ing his Walks upon the Brow of the Hill, through

his Park for near five Miles. By this means he will take in feveral of the delightful Views which

Dorsetshire, Wiltshire, and Somersetshire afford.
These Counties all meet in his Grounds. Part of

· Hampshire is also to be seen, and contributes its

· Share to heigthen the Charms of this captivating

· Scene.'

In my Return to my Western Progress I passed some other little Parts of Somer setshire, as through Evil, or Yeovil, upon the River Ivil; in going to which we descend a long steep Hill, called Babylon-hill; but from what Original, I could find none of the Country-people able to inform me.

Northward, upon an high fandy Hill, by the Bank of the River Ivil, is a Roman Camp, called Chefterton; under which lies the Town of Sandy, the Salinæ of the Romans, where abundance of Roman and British Antiquities have been found, and great Quantities of

Coins.

Yeovil is a Market-town of good Refort, and some little Cloathing is carried on in and near it. Its main Manufacture at this time is Gloves. It deals also in Corn, Cheese, Hemp, and all Sorts of Provisions.

It cannot pass my Observation here, that, when we are come this Length from London, the Dialect of the English Tongue, or the Country-way of expressing themselves, is not easily understood. It is the same in many Parts of England besides, but in none in so gross a Degree as in this Part. As this Way of boorish Speech is in Ireland called, The Broque upon the Tongue, so here it is named Jouring. It is not possible to explain this fully by Writing, because the Difference is not so much in the Orthography, as in the Tone and Accent; their abridging the Speech, Cham, for I

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am; Chil, for I will; Don, for do on, or put on; and

Doff, for do off, or put off; and the like.

I cannot omit a short Story here on this Subject: Coming to a Relation's House, who was a Schoolmaster at Martock in Somersetsbire, I went into his School to beg the Boys, or rather the Master, a Playday, as is usual in such Cases. I observed one of the lowest Scholars was reading his Lesson to the Usher in a Chapter in the Bible. I fat down by the Mafter, till the Boy had read it out, and observed the Boy read a little oddly in the Tone of the Country, which made me the more attentive; because, on Inquiry, I found that the Words were the same, and the Orthography the fame, as in all our Bibles. I observed also the Boy read it out with his Eyes still on the Book, and his Head, like a mere Boy, moving from Side to Side, as the Lines reach'd cross the Columns of the Book: His Lesson was in the Canticles of Solomon; the Words thefe:

'I have put off my Coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my Feet; how shall I defile them?'

The Boy read thus, with his Eyes, as I say, full o

'Chav a doffed my Coot; how shall I don't Chav a washed my Feet; how shall I moil 'em?'

How the dextrous Dunce could form his Mouth t express so readily the Words (which stood right printed in the Book) in his Country Jargon, I could not but admire.

We likewise see their Jouring Speech even upon thei Monuments and Grave stones; as for Example, i some of the Church-yards of the City of Bristol, I saw this Poetry after some other Lines—

And when that thou dost hear of Thick, Think of the Glass that runneth quick.

Devon.

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From Evil, or Yeavil, we came to Crookborn, thence to Chard, which immediately brought me into Devon. fbire.

It may not be unacceptable here to infert a general Description of this large County; which may con. vey to the Reader some Idea of the Nature of the Soil, its Productions, and the Method of Improvement, as well as the Manufactures, and Merchandizes, on which the Trading Part of the Inhabitants subsist.

To begin then: The Western Part of the County bordering on Cornwall, viz. about Tavistock, Brid. deflow, Oakhampton, Holfworthy, Bideford, Great Torrington, Chulmleigh, Chagford, Moreton, Hamftead, and all round the Skirts of Dartmore, as well as that large Forest itself, consists of a very coarse, moory, or fenny Soil, very barren in its Nature; in some Places productive of nothing but a dwarf Kind of Furze, of little or no Value. At other Places grow nothing but Rushes, or a coarse, sour Kind of Pasturage, which the Cattle will not feed upon; and therefore it dries up, and withers into a Sedge. The Soil here is gene. rally a stiff Clay, through which the Water cannot foak away: this renders it very unhealthy, especially to Sheep, which in those Parts are of a small Kind, and very subject to the Rot, which (in wet Seasons especially) destroys them in great Numbers: and what adds to the Malady is, that neither the Industry of the Hufbandman (for which this County is defervedly famous), nor any Compost that has yet been found out, will to any Purpose cure this Sterility.

The principal, and indeed the only profitable Return, that the Inhabitants can make out of those Lands, is by breeding Black Cattle, for which they are very well adapted; for here are bred those fine Oxen, in great Numbers, which, by the Drovers of Somerfetthire, and thereabouts, are bought up, and, in their flat Feeding Lands, betwixt Bridgwater and Wells (which

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(which I have feen almost covered with them), fattened fit for Smithfield Market, whither they drive, and fell them to the Londoners, who have not so good Beef

from any other Part of the Kingdom.

The Northern Parts of the County are of a quite different Nature from the former; for these generally confift of a dry healthy Soil, especially about Ilfordcomb, South Moulton, and all along the Brim of the Those Downs are far from being Forest of Exmore. a luxuriant Feeding, but are good Grazing for Sheep; and, being well dreffed with Lime (which is brought over hither by Water from Wales), Dung, Sand, and other Compost, manured by the indefatigable Labour of the Inhabitants, produce tolerable Crops of Corn. I say tolerable; for though they far exceed the Productions in Dorfet, Wilts, Hants, &c. (where Sluggishness so far prevails, as to leave Nature destitute of the least human Affistance), the Fertility is by no means comparable to that of the Eastern and Middle Parts of the County, in the former of which a rich Marl in some Parts, and a fertile fandy Soil in others. and in the latter a fat, strong Soil, of a deep red Colour, intermixed with Veins of different Kinds of Loam, produce great Crops of Corn, and Peas, of the best Kind, not to be excelled in the whole Island, Neither doth it fall behind in Meadow ground and Pasturage. Clover, Eaver, and Trefoil Grass, and Turneps; as is evident to a Person who goes through any of the Markets, and beholds the fine well-fed Beef and Mutton with which they are plentifully stored.

About Tinmouth, Dartmouth, Totness, Modbury, Plymouth, Ashburton, and all the South Parts of the County (called the South-Hams), the Lands are generally of a different Kind from any of the former; in most Places very good for Arable and Pasture, but especially for Cyder-fruits. A great Part of this large Track lies on a Stratum of Marble, which the Inha-

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bitants break up, and burn into Lime; and therewith dress their Lands, to their very great Improvement. Neither is this all the Advantage they make of those Quarries; for in many of them is found Stone, which, for its Hardness, Soundness, and beautiful Veinings, rivals the best Italian Marbles, and falls very little, if any thing, short of them in Lustre. Great Quantities of this Stone are fent to London, and other Places, where they are wrought up for the noblest Purposes. At other Places on this South Coast, are Quarries of Slate, for covering Houses, and this likewise of the best Kind; which are not only fetched away by Landcarriage, to the Distance of 10, 12, and 16 Miles, but great Quantities of them are sent Coast-wise to all the Towns on the British Shore; and exported to Holland, Flanders, and other Places beyond the Sea.

The Reader will not, by this Description, conclude, that the Lands in any Part of the County are all one and the same Kind. Downs, Fens, Rocks, and Woodgrounds, are interspersed among the best Lands; as there are also some good Arable and Pasture, amongst the most desolate and barren; and whoever looks round him, in his own Situation, will know in what

Sense to take this general Description.

On the Border of Dartmere, about two Miles from Mington, stand two very high Rocks, called Æther-Rocks; from whence is a very extensive View of Torbay, and the Country for several Miles round. About a Quarter of a Mile from the Rocks, among an Heap of large Stones, is one about eight Feet long, two broad, and three and an half thick, so equally poised, as to be moved up and down by the little Finger only.

To proceed:

At divers Places are found large Quantities of very good Oak-timber, as well as Ash, Elm, Beech, &c. and such of it as grows in Places, whence it can be conveyed, either by Land or Water carriage, to Plymouth

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mouth Dock, are there served in for the Use of his

Majesty's Navy.

Coppice wood is fo very plenty, that although the Woollen Manufacturers take off great Quantities in Charcoal, and yet greater Quantities are expended in common Firing (there being no Coal raised in this County), yet the Price is so low, that the Lands, where it thrives well, will not generally produce more than 5s. per Acre (communibus Annis). The Lands in Devonshire, save only the Forest of Dartmore, Halldon hill, and some Heaths, Moors, and coarse Downs, of no very large Extent (which, for the most part, are not capable of Improvement, even by Devonshire Hufbandry), are divided into small Inclosures, and (in Places where many Shrubs will grow) by Quickfethedges, banked up four or five Feet high with Earth. And as the Inclosures are small, so are the Farms or Tenements in these Parts, even to a very manifest Inconvenience: for the general Method here is, for Gentlemen to lease out the Tenements of their Manors for 99 Years, determinable on three Lives; taking Fines for such Leases, and reserving no more than about a Shilling in the Pound of the yearly Value.

By this means, Men of small Fortunes find an Opportunity to lay out the little Money they have, in what they call Purchasing an Estate, which likewise serves for a Settlement upon a Wise, for the Money she brings. Hence a Family comes on, and craves a Maintenance out of a Farm of perhaps 201. a Year; which surely can produce but a very poor one; whereas 2 or 3001. Sunk in this Purchase, would have enabled him to manage a Farm of 2001. a Year; out of which, by Industry and good Management, the Family might not only live in a more plentiful manner, the Children be better educated, and instructed to understand the Business of the Farm, but Money likewise laid up every Year towards setting them out in the same Method of Living. This I take to be the princi-

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pal Cause of the Poverty and Hardship that appears in Country Places, and of the Difficulty of getting a good Tenant at Rack-rent, for any Farm whose Value exceeds 100 l. a Year.

I should have mentioned, that in my Way from Chard I passed through Axminster, a pretty considerable Market-town, and the first in the County of Devon. The great Western Road to London goes through this Town. Here my Curiosity led me to go into the Church, and view the Monuments of the Saxon Princes (or rather the Bishop of Sherburne, and two Dukes), who were slain at the Battle of Brunaburgh in that Neighbourhood, fought by King Athelstane with seven Danish Princes; over whom he obtained the Victory, in a Field thence called King's-field to this Day. The Monuments of those Saxon Worthies were under Arches in the Walls of the Church, two of which have been lately filled up.

Here, in Memory of the Victory, King Athelstane founded a Minster for seven Priests, which in Afterages were reduced to two; for whom a Portion of Land was allotted, called *Priest-aller*, which, with the Parfonage, now belongs to two Prebendaries of the

Church of York.

Ford-Abbey in this Neighbourhood, was heretofore at stately Fabric, lofty, and very magnificent, adorned with curious Carving and Embellishments of the Gothic Kind, some of whose Beauties still remain, as may be seen in a modern Print thereof, published by Mr. Buck.

Near Axminster lies Kilmington, quasi Kill-men-town, from the great Slaughter there made at the Battle before-mentioned; and Membury, i. e. Maimburgh, whither the Maimed in that Battle were fent to be relieved; now famous for the best Devenshire Cheese.

The same Road I was before in, brought me from

Axminster to Honiton.

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This is a large and beautiful Market-town, very populous and well-built: it returns two Members to Parliament; and is fo very remarkably paved with small Pebbles, that on both Sides the Way a little Channel is left shouldered up; fo that it holds a small Stream of fine clear running Water, with a little square Dipping-place left at every Door; fo that every Family in the Town has a clear clean-running Rivulet (as it may be called) just at their own Door. This was the Condition of Honiton when I was last there: but it was fince, viz. in August 1747. unhappily altered, by a sudden and dreadful Fire, which broke out in the Town on the 19th of July, about three in the Afternoon, and continued raging till Four next Morning; whereby near three Quarters of the Town were reduced to Ashes, notwithstanding the Conveniency of Water which I have mentioned at each Door: for the Calamity was so sudden, and the Flame so violent, augmented by a firong Wind, that it extended itself several Ways at once; to the utter Ruin of many Hundreds of the poor laborious Inhabitants; fuch as Weavers, Combers, &c. very few being able to fave any Part of their Houshold-furniture, or Workingtools, their only Means of Subfiftence; befides the great Loss in Woollen, Linen, Mercery, and other Goods, to the Amount of several thousands of Pounds.

The Town, before this Calamity, was much em-

employed in Lace-making.

Here we see the first of the Serge-manufacture of Devonshire; a Trade too great to be described in Miniature. It takes up this whole County, which is the largest and most populous in England, Yorkshire excepted; but Devonshire is so full of great Towns, and those Towns so full of People, and those People so universally employed in Trade and Manufactures, that it cannot be equalled in England.

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Honiton stands in the best and pleasantest Part of the whole County; and I cannot but recommend it to Gentlemen who travel this Road, that if they observe the Prospect at Honiton for half a Mile, till they come down the Hill, and to the very Entrance into Honiton, the View of the Country is the most beautiful Landschape in the World; and I do not remember the like in any one Place in England. 'Tis observable, that the Market of this Town was kept originally on the Sunday, till it was changed by Direction of King John.

On the Road from Hanitan they have a beautiful Prospect almost all the Way to Exeter, which is 12

Miles.

On the Left hand of this Road lies the Town of St. Mary Ottery, so called, as some say, from the River Otter, and that from the Otters formerly sound in it. This Town was given by King Edward the Confessor to the Church of St. Mary at Roan in Normandy; but was afterwards bought by Grandison, Bishop of Exeter; who made of it a Quarter College in 10 Edward III. and therein placed secular Priests, with other Ministers, to whom he gave the whole Manor, Parish, Tythes, Fines, Spiritual Profits, &c.

which amounted to 3041. 25. 10d. yearly.

From hence we came to Exeter, the Capital of the County of Devon, a City which hath often changed its Name: for it was the Pen Caer, and Caer-Eske of the Britons; the Augusta of the Romans; the Isca of Ptolemy; the Isca-Damnoniorum of Antonine; the Exacester of the Saxons, which was afterwards abbreviated to Excester and Exeter. From the great Number of Monks there, it had for some time the Name of Monkton; but at length, from that large River which washes its Walls, and bears the Name of Ex, it retains that of Exeter. It was first fortified with a Stone Wall (which still remains intire) by King Athelstane; and was for some time the Seat of the West-Saxon. Kings.

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That the Romans were here, is highly probable, among other Proofs, from their Coins, that have been dug up at divers Places: in particular, a Gold one of Nero, at Exeter; one of Theodosius, near Barnstaple; several Silver ones of Severus, and other Emperors; but especially from a great Quantity of them dug up about 30 Years since at Exeter, within the Close, together with the Urn in which they were buried. I saw a great Number of those, some of which were of Silver; but the greatest Part of them were a Mixture of Tin and Copper. They had the Impression of Gor-

dianus, Philippus, and other Emperors.

King Athelstane founded here a Monastery to St. Mary and St. Peter, for Monks of the Order of St. Benedict. The Chapel of St. Mary, now fitted up for a Library, and furnished with a pretty large Number of Books (which are but of little Use, because placed in a very confused Order), is the very Eastermost Part of the Cathedral, and was, doubtless, the first Beginning of that now handsome Fabric. King Etheldred founded also, within the Close, an House for Monks, and another for Nuns. Divers other Religious Houses, as the Priories of St. James, St. Nicholas, St. John Baptist, the Grey Friers, &c. were the Work of After ages.

The Walls are in tolerable Repair, and make a Walk round the City, with the Pleasure of seeing a fine Country on opposite Hills, sull of Wood, rich Ground, Orchards, Villages, and Gentlemens Houses. The Beauty of the Place consists of one long Street, called High-street, broad and strait. The Houses are of a very old, but good Model, spacious, commodious, and not inelegant. This Street is sull of Shops well surnished, and all forts of Trades look brisk. The People are industrious and courteous: the Fair Sex here are truly fair, as well as numerous; their Complexion, and generally their Hair, of a fair Cast; they are genteel, of easy Carriage, and good Mien,

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There has been of late a vast Increase of Buildings within and without the City. The very Situation renders it clean, dry, and airy. The Soil thither from Honiton is rather fandy than stony. In Dr. Mulgrave's Garden, an Head of the Empress Julia Domna, of a Coloffean Size, was dug up. The Head-dress is suitable to those Times; and neither the Manner nor Carving are despicable, though the Graver has not done it Justice. 'Tis the noblest Relique of British Antiquity which we know of this Sort: 'tis 21 Inches from the Top of the Attire to the Chin, and belonged to a Statue of 12 Feet Proportion, originally fet upon fome Temple or Palace. There is also an Inscription of Camillus.

This County remarkably abounds with Persons afflicted with the Gout; which is attributed to the Cuftom of marling the Lands with Lime, and the great Use of poor, sweet Cyder, especially among the

meaner People.

In the Northern Angle of the City, and highest Grounds stands Rugemont Castle, once the Residence of the West Saxon Monarchs, afterwards of the Earls of Cornwall. It is of a squarish Figure, not very large, environed with an high Wall, and deep Ditch. It has a Rampire of Earth parallel to the Top of the Wall, forming a Terrace, which overlooks the City and Country. Here are the Affize-house and a Chapel.

The Bridge over the Ex is of great Length, and has Houses on both Sides, and at both Ends, with a considerable Vacancy in the Middle. In the Guild. hall are the Pictures of General Monck, and the Princess Henrietta-Maria, the youngest Daughter of King

Charles I. who was born here.

The Bishop's See of this Western Diocese hath had feveral Removes; for it was first at Bodmyn for the County of Cornwall, and fince that at Taunton for this County. Afterwards both were joined, and placed at Crediton. And laftly, about the Year 1050. King Edward

Devon.

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Edward the Confessor, and his Queen Edyth, inthroned Leofricus (who had been three Years Bishop of Crediton) into the See of Exeter, in the following very solemn Manner:

On the South-side of the high Altar, in the Cathedral, were erected (and are there still to be seen persect, as when sirst made) three Seats, or Alcoves, adorned with Gothic Carvings, to the Height of about 25 Feet, which are supported with Brass Pillars; in the Middle of these was the Bishop installed by the King and Queen. The Form of Words thus:

I kyinge Edward, taking Leofricke bye the Kyghte Haunde, and Edythe my Dueene bye the Lefte, doe installe hym the fyrste and most famous Byschoppe of Eron, withe a grate Desyre of Aboundance of Blessynges to all such as shall surder and encrease the same; but withe a fearful and execrable Curse on all such as shall durinish or take anye things from it.

The Church may be said to be upwards of 300 Years in building; for Robert Warlewast, made Bishop in 1150. built the Choir; Peter Quivil, who ascended the Episcopal Throne in 1280. the Body of the Church; John Grandison, consecrated in 1327. the two last Arches at the West-end, and covered the whole Roof; and Peter Courtenay, then Bishop of Exeter, asterwards of Winchester, completed the North Tower in 1485. and very remarkable it is to behold the Uniformity with which it was carried on; for nobody can discover the least Incongruity in the Parts; so much is it like the Workmanship of one and the same Architect.

There are some antient Funeral Monuments in the Cathedral; but first, let me take Notice of the Bishop's Throne in the Choir, which, at the Dissolution of Episcopacy in King Charles I.'s time, was (as an useless thing) taken down; but, whether the Workmen employed

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ployed to do it were well affected to that Order, or elfehad private Instructions from somebody in Power, who foresaw that it would some time or other be of Use again, certain it is, that a great deal of Carewas taken of the Materials: for it is now replaced, and every Part of it as sound, as when first made. The Gothic Carvings about the Canopy are at least 60. Feet high, and a vast deal of good Workmanship (of that kind) is about it: it is, I believe, coeval with the See.

The Cathedral hath two Steeples, one at each End of the Cross Building. At the Upper-end of the Lady's Chapel, now converted into a Library, is a Monument of Sir Peter Carew and his Lady: There are other little Chapels, and in them feveral antient Monuments; to wit, Sir Gaven Carew's and his Lady's. [they were both poisoned]; Bishop Stafford's [who was once Chancellor of England; Mrs. Elizabeth Barret's [an Hearse cut in Marble]; Bishop Cotton's; Sir John Gilburne's and his Lady's; Bishop Carey's; Bishop Branscombe's; Bishop Oldham's fin the Wall; he was excommunicated]; Bishop Stapleton's, and one of his Brothers, a Knight; Sir Thomas Speke's; one of another Sir Peter Carew, who died at Ross in Ireland; Mr. Harbin's; Dean Lacy's, his Effigies as naked, carved in Stone The was found dead in his Study]; Bishop Masham's; and one of Courtney Earl of Devonsbire; another of Bobun Earl of Hereford; Bishop Lacy's, who built the Chapterhouse; and in the Wall of one of the Wings, a Monument of Leofricus, the first Bishop of Exeter; the Lord Chichester's. So much for the ancient Monuments.

Bishop Stapleton above-mentioned, was the pious Founder of Exeter College in Oxford; which Society, in grateful Remembrance of their Benefactor, a few Years ago repaired and beautified his Monument; which, in Regard to some of the Carvings about it, excels any thing I ever saw of so old a Date in the Gothic way.

The Chapter-house is different from all that I have

feen; an Oblong, like a Chapel, handsom gilded on

the Top. A good Area about the Church.

The Altar-piece, done upwards of 100 Years ago. is a Representation of the Infide of the Church in Perspective, an exquisitely fine Piece of Painting, and (excepting only a little Injury it received from the Swords of the Saints Militant in the Civil Wars) exceedingly well preserved. The fine painted Glass (ofwhich there is a great deal) underwent the Fury of the same Reformers; who, after they had made forcible Entry, and "taken to themselves this House of " God in Possession," under the Umbrage of an Ordinance of Parliament of the 28th of August 1643. broke out the best of those Paintings, and irretrievably ruined all the Scripture History therein represented : neither was their Rage confined to those brittle Mateterials; for the carved Figures of the Patriarchs, Prophets, Kings, &c. of which there were a great many, became Objects of their furious Zeal and Ignorance: for there the maimed Bodies are now to be feen, fome without the Heads, others have loft one or both Legs, or Arms, &c. all of them some way or other mangled. And having by this means taken away what they feared would draw them into Idolatry, they divided this. Cathedral by a Partition-wall betwixt the Choir and the main Body of it, one of which Divisions was made: Use of by an Independent, and the other by a Presbyterian Congregation.

And now, that I am taking notice of the Decorations of this magnificent Piece of Antiquity, let me just mention, that in one of its Towers is a very large Bell of about 60 hundred Weight; and in the other, a fine Ring of 10 large ones. An Organ of very good: Workmanship, and supported by a Tetrastyle of beautiful Gothic Columns, stands where the before-mentioned Partition-wall did. The largest Pipes in this Instrument are of a great Length, and 15 Inches in Diameter; which is said to be two Inches more than those at Ulm, which is so fameds or its Largeness.

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The well-finished Alcove of wooden Work for the Bishop, and the Pulpit, and Pews of the like, in the Nave or Body of the Church, together with the neat Marble Font, and the two Suits of Hangings for the Choir, one of Tapestry and the other of Velvet, and the fine Suit of gilt Plate for the Communion-Service, are all that I shall further add about the grave and well-adapted Ornaments and Furniture of this Church.

To complete this Description with a Circumstance which, I think, ought by no means to be passed over: The Solemnity, Decency, and affecting Harmony, with which the Service, and Music, vocal and instrumental, is generally performed, by the Choral Vicars, Organists, and Choristers; and (which is well-worthy of Imitation \*) the numerous Congregation, which, Winter and Summer, attend the daily Prayers at Six in the Morning; and their grave and pious Behaviour there; I fay, all this together, renders this Cathedral a Glory to the Diocese, the Envy of other Choirs, and the Admiration of Strangers.

The late Reverend Dr. Alured Clarke, who was promoted to the Deanry of this Church, Anno 1740. was a great Benefactor to it, and, we may fay, to the City and County, and, in them, to the Kingdom, in the Hospital he was the great Encourager of, which is called The Devon and Exeter Hospital; set up on the Model of the public Infirmaries in London and Westminster; one of the most laudable Charities that ever

was fet on foot.

His first Work was to alter and repair the Deanryhouse; which his Predecessors had neglected; and this

a is in that education in the reference.

<sup>\*</sup> It is no uncommon Thing to see 500 People here in a Morning; which is at least five times as many as usually attend at St. Paul's, or any other Six o'clock Chapel I was ever at : and it is commendable; that the Reader doth not here curtail the Morning Service, by leaving out any Part of it, as in other Places they do. Here are two Morning Lectures preached weekly ; viz. Tuefday and Friday Mornings.

he completed within the first nine Months of his In-

stalment, at the Expence of about 800 1.

Before this was perfected, viz. in the Spring of 1741. he drew up and published the Proposal for founding the Hospital abovesaid, for Lodging, Dieting, and Curing, the Sick and Lame Poor of the County and City, on the same Plan as those I have mentioned, or rather on that of the Infirmary, which he had been the great Promoter of, at Winchester, for the Benefit of that City, and of the County of Hants.

All Ranks and Parties of Men fell into the laudable

Defign.

John Tuckfield, of Raddon, Esq. accommodated the Governors with a Plot of Ground, for the Erection, near Southernhay, at a very moderate Price, and gave 100% towards it. The Building contains upwards of 300 Feet in Length. In digging the Ground for the Foundation, the Workmen found a Roman Coin of

Nerva, and another of Constantine.

The Charity-schools sounded here by the pious Bishop Blackall, Anno 1709, the good Dean not only
bountifully subscribed to, but preached a Sermon before
a large Assembly of Governors and Contributors; and,
after the Sermon, at a Court held for that Purpose, inspected the Rules, inquired into the Causes of Complaint, and prevailed on the Governors to visit the
School oftener, and diligently endeavour to render that
Charity as useful as possible.

Besides the antient Buildings of a public Nature, which I have mentioned in the City of Exeter, there are the Chapter-house, and Cloisters, the Bishop's Palace, the Houses belonging to the Dean, the Chancellor, Treasurer, and other Dignitaries of the Church; the Guildball, the Walls, and Gates of the City, with those of the Castle, and the Close; the Hospital of St. John the Baptist, 20 Parish-churches within the City and Liberties thereof, the Bridge over the River Ex, a large and very handsome Conduit for Water, in the

Centre of four principal Streets: to which may be added, some Chapels and Alms houses, yet standing, and the Ruins of divers others; which are Monuments of the Piety of their Founders, and the Impiety of those

who neglect them.

Modern Buildings of a public Nature this City hath not many to boast of: St. Paul's (one of the 20 Churches before-mentioned), the Chancellor's House, a very handsome and well-contrived Workhouse for the Poor, three or sour Meeting-houses, a Quay for landing Goods, and a Custom-house, include all that

have been erected within 40 Years past.

This City returns two Members to Parliament: its Civil Government is by a Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council; a Recorder, Sheriff, four Bailiffs, a Chamberlain, and Town-clerk, who are attended by a Sword bearer, who wears the Cap, and carries the Sword given by Henry VII. before them to Church, and on all public Processions; four Serjeants at Mace, and as many Staff bearers; the former in Gowns, and the latter in Liveries, with Badges; and, which adds not a little to their Splendor, they keep a Band of four Musicians in constant Pay.

There are, moreover, 12 Companies of incorporated Trades, who, on public Occasions, and on Gaudydays, walk in the Mayor's Train, dressed in Gowns, each Company having a Bedel, in a laced Cloak, bearing the Ensigns of their several Professions, to usher them. The Inhabitants are well supplied with

Water.

The River Ex was heretofore, in its main Stream, navigable to the Walls of the City: but, on a Difference between the Mayor and the then Earl of Devon, on a very trifling Occasion, viz. Which of their Purveyors should be first served with a Pot of Fish in the Market, that Earl revenged himself by choaking the Mouth of the River, and by making Weirs with Timber, Sand, &c. thereby intirely ruining the Navigation

gation thereof farther up than Topsham. And so great were the Power and Obstinacy of the Earl at that time, that, though the Citizens obtained a Decree in Equity

for their Relief, it was never executed.

To remove this Inconvenience, the Inhabitants about 50 Years fince, by Aid of an Act of Parliament, at a great Expence perfected a Work, which had been begun above 100 Years before. They cut a new Channel for the Water, cross which they placed Sluices, or Flood-gates: through the lowermost of those Gates they let in the flowing Tide, the Ebb of which immediately shuts the Gate, and that keeps up a Body of Water for about two Miles, sufficient to carry up the Vessels so far in their Way; at which Place another of those Gates shuts, after the Vessel is pass it, by Capsterns there fixed for that Purpose. It must be considered, that the Floor of the Dyke is thus far on a Level, and consequently the Water of an equal Depth, without the Inconvenience of any Cur-

rent, the lower Sluice being shut as before.

The whole Declivity, from the Quay at Exeter to the lowermost Flood-gate at Topsbam, which gives the River its Current, is about eight or ten Feet, all which is funk at once here, above this fecond Sluice; and therefore, in order to bring up Ships over this Fall, it was necessary, that a third Flood-gate should be added; which is accordingly done, at about 200 Feet from the former. And now, the Ship being between these two Flood-gates (the lower being kept shut), the uppermost of the two is opened, and by this means the Water between them raised to a Level with that of the Remainder of the Dyke above; and the Ship, by this Contrivance, floats freely over the rifing Ground; and thence on the fresh Water (for the Tide is of no farther Use) for about two Miles more, which brings her to the Head of the Works, where is another Flood-gate; and this ponds the whole River, so as to throw the waste Water, over a strong Stone Weir, into its natural Channel.

Channel. The Water so kept back by this upper Sluice, and the Weir, makes a stagnant Pool above; and here the Vessels lie at their Moorings, and unload

at a Quay adjoining to the City Walls.

Near the Mouth of the River Ex, on the West Banks thereof, is Powderham Castle, now, and for many Ages past, the Seat of a Family of Courtenays, Descendents from the Earls of Devon of that Name. This Seat, built in the manner of a Castle, was the Work of Isabel, the Daughter of Baldwin de Rivers, and Widow of William de Fortibus, in the Reign of

King Henry III.

Halldown is a pretty large, dry, healthy Common, of about feven Miles in Length, and about three in Breadth, which, though in itself a very flinty barren Soil, yet is its Situation so delightful, the open Prospect both by Sea and Land so engaging, and the whole Circuit thereof so adapted to rural Recreations, that the like Number of Gentlemens Seats, as hie round the Skirts thereof, within so little Compass of Ground, is not to be met with at any Place that I know of, except about London.

Exeter is particularly famous for two things; which we seldom find united in the same Town; viz. That it is sull of Gentry, and yet sull of Trade and Manu-

factures.

The Serge-market, held here every Week, is very well worth a Stranger's feeing; and, next to the Brigg Market at Leeds in Yorkshire, is the greatest in England. The People assured me, that at this Market is generally sold from 60 to 70, 80, and sometimes 100,000 l. Value in Serges in a Week.

The Ex, or Esk, is a very confiderable River, and the principal in the whole County; and, by the Contrivance we have mentioned, Ships of 150 Tons now

come up to the City.

Exeter drives a very great Correspondence with Holland; as also directly to Portugal, Spain, and Italy; shipping

shipping off vast Quantities of their Woollen Manufactures, especially to Holland, the Dutch giving very large Commissions here for the buying of Serges, Perpetuanas, and such Goods; which are made not only in and about Exeter, but at Crediton, Honiton, Culliton, St. Mary Ottery, Newton-bushel, Ashburton, and especially at Tiverton, Cullumpton, Bampton, and all the North-east Part of the County; which Part is, as it may be said, sully employed, the People made rich, and the Poor well maintained by it.

On the North side of the Castle (and which was formerly its Counterscarp) is a very beautiful Terracewalk, bounded by a double Row of fine Elms, and extended round one Quarter of the City: viz. from the East-gate to the North gate. This, for the Fineness of the Air, Length of the Walk, and the Landschape in View, is not perhaps inserior to any thing of the kind

in England.

I shall take the North Part of this County in my Return from Cornwall; but must now lean to the South coast; for, in going on, we in reality go Southwest.

About 22 Miles from Exeter, and through Newtonbushel, a large, but meanly-built Market-town, we go into the antient Town of Totness, on the River Dart. It was formerly of great Note, and still is a pretty good Town, and has fome Trade; but has more Gentlemen in it than Tradesmen of Note: they have a fine Stone Bridge here over the River; which, being within feven or eight Miles of the Sea, is large, and the Tide flows 10 or 12 Feet at the Bridge. Here we had the Diversion of seeing them catch Fish, with the Affistance of a Dog; in this manner: On the South fide of the River, and on a Slip, or narrow Cut or Channel made on purpose, stands a Corn-mill: the Mill-tail, or Floor for the Water below the Wheels, is wharfed up on either Side with Stone, above Highwater Mark, and for above 20 or 30 Feet in Length below below it, on that Part of the River toward the Sea. At the End of this Wharfing is a Grating of Wood, the Cross-bars of which stand bearing inward, sharp at the End, and pointing towards one another, as the Wires

of a Mouse-trap.

When the Tide flows up, the Fish can with Ease go in between the Points of these Cross-bars; but, the Mill being shut down, they can go no farther upwards; and, when the Water ebbs agains are left behind, not being able to pass the Points of the Grating, which, like a Mouse trap, keeps them in; so that they are left at the Bottom with about a Foot, or a Foot and half Water. We were carried hither at Low-water, where we faw about 50 or 60 small Salmon, from 17 to 20 Inches long, which the Countrypeople called Salmon Peal; and to catch these, they throw in a Net on an Hoop, at the End of a Pole, the Pole going cross the Hoop, which, in some Places, they call a Shove-net. The Net being fixed at one End of the Place, they put in a Dog (which is taught his Trade beforehand), at the other End, and he drives all the Fish into the Net; so that only holding the Net still in its Place, the Man took up Two or Three-and-thirty Salmon Peal at the first time.

Of these we had six for our Dinner, for which they asked a Shilling only; but, for such sized Fish, and not so fresh, I have seen 6s. 6d. each given at a London Fish-market, whither they are sometimes brought from Chichester by Land-carriage. They have also delicate Trouts here.

This excessive Plenty of good Fish (other Provisions being cheap in proportion) makes the Town of Tatness a very good Place to live in; especially for such as have large Families, and but small Estates; and many such are said to come into those Parts on Purpose for saving Money.

About

About ten Miles North of Totness lies Ashburton, a good Market-town, and Thoroughsare from Exeter to Plymouth; which sends two Members to Parliament This is one of the sour Stannary Towns for the County of Devon, and lies but a little Way in from the Forest of Dartmore. The principal Trade of this Town, and indeed of all the Towns and Villages in the Country, is in the Woollen Manusacture.

The three other Stannary Towns are Tavistock, Plympton, and Chagford, the last of which is a very poor inconsiderable Place; and neither that, nor Plympton, are capable of entertaining the Suitors, if the Lord Warden should be ever inclined to adjourn the Court thither: yet both Tavistock and Plympton send

Members to Parliament.

And now, having mentioned this Court of Stannary, it may not be improper to give a further Description of it.

By divers Charters granted to the Tinners by King Edward I. &c. the Court is to be held at Crockeren-Torr, a noted Hill and Rock in the Middle of the Forest, far distant from any House: the Lord Warden of the Stannaries is the Judge of this Court, on whose Summons the Jurors appear, who are generally Gentlemen within the Jurisdiction. I had my Information from a Gentleman, who, if I mistake not, told me, he had served as a Juror; and that, when the Earl of Bath was Lord Warden, and held a Court there, he was attended by 300 Gentlemen well mounted.

At this desolate Place (where no Refreshment is to be had, but what the Company bring with them, no Shelter from the Weather, nor any-thing to sit upon, but a Moor-stone Bench) the Court is called: but then the next Act of the Steward is to adjourn to one of the Stannary Towns (usually Tavistock), and the Company immediately make the best of their Way thit ier.

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At this Court, in former times, when the Tin. Mines in this County were in a flourishing State, a great deal of Business was dispatched: the Price of the Tin was fixed, Differences in relation to the Works adjusted, and Acts made for Regulation of every thing relating thereto. Several Prefentments of the Jurors are printed; and this Meeting is usually called, The Parliament for the Stannaries : the Place of Meeting in the Forest, The Parliament-house; and the Presentment of the Jurors, Acts of Parliament.

The Abbey of Tavistock, the Priory at Plympton, and the Monastery at Buckland Monachorum, were very large Endowments; and their Site well establishes the Observation I have several times before made, in relation to the Fertility of the Soil where those Orders of Men generally feated themselves: An Observation I have made rather to confirm that of other Writers, than as Matter of Wonder or Reflection: For would it not be strange, if the Ecclefiastics should not be as capable of choosing for themselves as other People? or that they should choose the worst, if they might have the best?

At Tavistock I saw some stately Remains of that grand Building; and, among other things, Part of the Butments of the Arch of a Bridge over the Tavy, which the Inhabitants call Guile-bridge, and relate the following Story; viz. That one Childe, Owner of the Manor of Plymstock, made his Will, and gave the said Lands to the Church where his Body should be buried; and that, afterwards, hunting in the Forest, he lost his Company, and his Way; and though, as his last Shift, he killed his Horse, and got into the warm Belly of him, he at length died there with the Extremity of The Body, after some Search, was found by the Tavistock Men (who had, by some means, come to the Knowlege of his Will), and by them carried away toward their Abbey. The Plymftock Men, hearing thereof, lay in Ambush for them at a Bridge, where

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where they apprehended they must pass: but in this they were deceived; for the Priests built a slight Bridge on Purpose, over which they carried the Corpse; by which Stratagem they obtained the said Land; and hence, says the Tradition, this is called Guile-bridge.

From Totness we went still South about seven Miles (all in View of the River) to Dartmouth, a Town of Note, seated at the Mouth of the River Dart, where it empties itself into the Sea, at a very narrow, but safe Entrance. The Opening into Dartmouth Harbour is not broad, but the Channel deep enough for the biggest Ship in the Royal Navy: the Sides of the Entrance are high-mounded with Rocks; without which, just at the first Narrowing of the Passage, stands a good strong Fort beyond a Platform of Guns, which commands the Port.

The narrow Entrance is not much above half a Mile; and then it opens, and makes a Bafin, or Harbour, able to receive 500 Sail of Ships, where they may ride with the greatest Safety; and the Entrance may he chained up on Occasion. I went out in a Boat to view this Entrance, and the Castle, or Fort, that commands it; and, coming back with the Tide of Flood, I observed some small Fish to skip and play upon the Surface of the Water; upon which Iasked, What Fish they were? Immediately one of the Rowers or Seamen started up in the Boat, and throwing his Arms abroad, as if he had been mad, cries out as loud as he could bawl, A Scool! A Scool! The Word was taken on the Shore as haftily, as it would have been on Land, if he had cried Fire; and, by that time we reached the Quays, the Town was all in a kind of an Uproar.

The Matter was, that a great Shoal, or, as they call it, a Scool of Pilchards, came swimming with the Tide directly out of the Sea into the Harbour. The Boat-owner lamented his being unprepared for them;

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for he said, that if he could but have had a Day or two's Warning, he might have taken 200 Ton of them; in short, nobody was ready for them, except a small Fishing boat or two; one of which went into the Middle of the Harbour, and, at two or three Hawls, took about 40,000.

It was observed, that beyond the Mouth of the Harbour was a whole Army of Porpoises; which, it teems, pursued these Pilchards, and, it is probable, drove them into the Harbour. The Scool drove up the River as high as Totness Bridge, as we heard asterwards; so that the Country-people, who had Boats and Nets, caught as many as they knew what to do with.

Dartmouth returns two Members to Parliament. It is situated on the West-side of this Basin, or Harbour, in a kind of Semicircle, on the Ascent of a steep Hill; which, though large and populous, is but meanly built; yet the Quay is large, and the Street before it spacious. Here live some very flourishing Merchants, who trade very prosperously, and to the most considerable trading Ports in Spain, Portugal, Italy, and the Plantations; but especially to Newsoundland, and from thence to Spain and Italy, with Fish. They drive a good Trade also in their own Fishery of Pilchards, which is hereabouts carried on with the greatest Number of Vessels of any Port in the West, except Falmouth.

The French burnt Dartmouth in Richard I.'s time, and attempted it afterwards; but were bravely repulsed, and chiefly by the Women, who fought desperately, and took Monsieur Castel their General, three Lords, and 23 Knights, Prisoners, and made a great Slaughter among them besides; but how this glorious Action fell to the Share of the Women, and whether the Men

were inactive or absent, is not mentioned.

A little to the Northward of this Town, and to the East of the Port, is Torbay, a very good Road for Ships, about 12 Miles in Circuit, though sometimes, (especially

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cially with a Southerly or South-east Wind), Ships have been obliged to quit the Bay, and put out to Sea, or run into Dartmouth for Shelter.

In the Bottom of this Bay is a beautiful, well built, and fine-fituated House, called Torr-Abbey, formerly a Religious House. Vespasian is said to have landed here, when he came to attack Arviragus King of Britain. And here it was, that King William III entered with a Fleet of 6000 Transports, and 50 Sail of Men of War, under the Conduct of Admiral Herbert, afterwards Lord Torrington.

About three Miles to the West of Dartmouth is a little Fishing-town, called Brixham, remarkable for a Spring of Water, that ebbs and flows very sensibly.

From Dartmouth we went to Plympton, mentioned before as a poor Town, though it was formerly of great Account, and the Glory of the antient Earls of Devon; where are Tenures at this Day, called Castle-guard, for defending and repairing the Walls of the Castle; which, however, is now in Ruins. From thence the Road lies to Plymouth, Distance about six Miles.

Phymouth is indeed a Town of Confideration and Importance. The Situation of it is between two very large Inlets of the Sea, and in the Bottom of a large Sound, or Bay, which is encompassed on every Side with Hills, and the Shore generally steep and rocky; though the Anchorage is good, and it is pretty safe Riding. In the Entrance to this Bay lies a large and most dangerous Rock, which at High-water is covered, but at Low-tide lies bare, where many a good Ship has been lost, when they have thought all their Dangers at an End.

A dreadful Instance of this I have to give, so lately as February 15, 1760, when in a dreadful Hurricane, that did great Mischief both by Land and Sea, the Ramillies, a very fine Second-rate Man of War, Captain Taylor Commander, with 734 Men on board,

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was lost in it. Being embayed within the Bolt-head, (which they had mistaken for the Ram-head, and imagined they were going into Plymouth Sound) and close upon the Rocks, they let go their Anchor, and cut away all their Masts, and rode safe till the Evening; when the Gale increased so much, that the Hull parted, and only one Midshipman, and 25 Men, out of the whole Number, jumped off the Stern upon the Rocks, and were saved.

Upon the Rock, which was called the Eddystone, from its Situation, the ingenious Mr. Winstanley, whom I mentioned before, undertook to build a Lighthouse for the Direction of Sailors; and with great Art and Expedition finished it: which Work, considering its Height, the Magnitude of its Building, and the little Hold there was to fasten it to the Rock, stood to Admiration, and bore out many a bitter Storm.

Mr. Winstanley often visited, and frequently strengthened the Building by new Works; and was so consident of its Firmness and Stability, that he usually said to those who doubted its Standing in hard Weather, that he only desired to be in it, when a Storm should

happen.

But, in the dreadful Tempest of Nov. 27. 1703. when he happened to be so unfortunate as to have his Wish, he would fain have been on Shore, making Signals for Help; but no Boats durst go off to him; and, in the Morning after the Storm, nothing was to be feen but the bare Rock, the Light-house being gone, in which Mr. Winstanley, and all that were with him, perished: and a few Days after, a Merchant's Ship, called the Winchelfea, homeward-bound from Virginia, not knowing rhe Light-house was down, ran foul of the Rock, and was loft with all her Lading, and most There was another Light house built on of her Men. the same Rock by-the Corporation of Trinity-house; in pursuance of an Act of Parliament passed in the fifth of Queen Anne. But December 2, 1755. this took

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took Fire, and all the Timber-work was burnt, but the Stone-work, 30 Feet high, and founded on the Rock, remained unhurt. Admiral West, at Plymouth, seeing the Fire, sent out a Boat, and brought off the two Men who had the Care of the Place.

The Re-edification of this useful Work has been fince executed under the Direction of Mr. John Smeaton, F. R. S. and is thought by the best Judges to be the completest Performance of its Kind in Europe.

As Plymouth lies in the Bottom of this Sound, in the Centre between the two Waters, fo there lies against it, in the fame Position, an Island which they call St. Nicolas; on which is a Castle that commands the Entrance into Ham Ouze, and indeed that also into Catwater in fome Sort. On the Shore, over-against this Island, is the Citadel of Plymouth, a small, but regular Fortification, inacceffible by Sea, but not exceeding strong by Land; except that they fay the Works are of a Stone as hard as Marble, and would not foon yield to the Batteries of an Enemy: but that is a Language our modern Engineers laugh at. It is furrounded with a deep Trench, out of which was dug the Stone that built the whole Citadel, which is about three Quarters of a Mile in Circumference, and has 300 great Guns on its Walls, which stand thickest towards the Sea. Several Guns are also planted on Part of the old Fort, lying almost level with the Water; all which gives the greatest Security to the Ships in the Harbour.

The Town returns two Members to Parliament. It stands above the Citadel, upon the same Rock, and lies sloping on the Side of it, towards the East, the Inlet of the Sea (which is called Catwater, and is an Harbour capable of receiving any Number of Ships, and of any Size) washing the Eastern Shore of the Town, where they have a kind of natural Mole, or Haven, called Sutton Pool, from the antient Name of the Town; with a Quay, and all other Conveniencies for bringing in Vessels for loading and unloading;

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nor is the Trade carried on here inconsiderable in itielf.

The other Inlet of the Sea, as I term it, is on the other Side of the Town, and is called Ham-Ouze, being the Mouth of the River Tamar, a considerable River, which parts the two Counties of Devon and Cornivall. Here, the War with France making it necessary, that the Ships of War should have a Retreat nearer Hand than at Portsmouth, the late King William ordered a Wet dock, with Yards, Dry docks, Launches, and Conveniencies of all Kinds for building and repairing of Ships, to be built. These Wet and Dry-docks are about two Miles up the Ham Ouze; and, for the Neatness and Excellency of the Work, exceed all that were ever built of the kind, being hewn out of a Mine of Slate, and lined with Portland Stone. The Dry dock is built after the Mould of a First-rate Man of War; and the Wet-dock will contain five of the same Bigness. What followed these, as it were of course, was the building of Store-houses and Warehouses for the Rigging, Sails, naval and military Stores, &c. of fuch Ships as may be appointed to be laid up there; with very handsome Houses for the Commisfioner, Clerks, and Officers of all kinds usual in the King's Yards, to dwell in. It is, in short, now become as complete an Arfenal, or Yard, for building and fitting out Men of War, as any the Government are Masters of; and perhaps much more convenient than some of them, though not so large: and this has occasioned a proportional Increase of Building to the Town.

Plymouth, during the last Civil War, adhered to the Parliament, and, by an obstinate Resistance, did more Harm to the Royal Cause, than any other Town of the West; the King's Army being obliged to raise the Siege, after lying before the Place many Months. King Charles II. well knowing its Importance, built a Fort on the Brow of the Hill, called The Haw, which

at once awes the Town, and is a Defence to the Harbour. The Town is governed by a Mayor and Recorder, who are Justices of the Peace and Quorum, 12 Magistrates, three of whom are Justices, and 24 Common-councilmen.

Here are two fine Churches, and two or three Meeting houses for Dissenters, and French Resugees; as also a Free-school, and an Hospital for Blue-coat

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Opposite to this Place, on the other Side Ham Ouze, is situated Mount Edgeumbe, the Seat of the Lord Edgeumbe, deemed one of the noblest Prospects in England; overlooking at once the Sea, the Harbour, Citadel, and Town of Plymouth, and the County adja-

cent for a great Way.

A good Englishman cannot but be pleased with every Instance of the Attention paid by the Administration to the Safety and Improvement of our Places of Strength, and maritime Force in this Kingdom. Plymouth, Portsmouth, and Chatham, have particularly been great Objects of their Care, as we shall see in the Description we have given of those three famous Places, as well as others on the Sea-coasts; and of the prosperous Situation of the Royal Navy of England, which makes us the most respectable Nation in the World, with regard to our Marine. Much has been done by our former Princes in this Particular: But nothing in our own Times is neglected, that may contribute to fo good an End. An Act passed in the 3: st Year of his Majesty King George II.'s Reign; intitled, An Act for vefting certain Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, for the better securing his Majesty's Docks, Ships, and Stores, at Portsmouth, Chatham, and Plymouth, and for the better fortifying the Town of Portsmouth and Citadel of Plymouth, in Trustees, for certain Uses; and for other Purposes therein mentioned. And in 32d Year of his faid Jate Majesty's Reign, another Act passed, for making Compensation to

the Proprietors of such Lands and Hereditaments, as have been purchased for the Uses mentioned in the former; to both which we refer our Reader.

The Land declining when we leave the Coast of Devonshire to the South-west, the first Place we meet with on the Cornish Shore is Bude-baven, in all the old Maps called Beeds haven; now not fo much as a Creek in the Custom house Account, and barely so in Conception of the common People, who fometimes shelter their Boats there. It was, in Ages past, no doubt, a much more useful Place; but as in many other Parts of Cornwall the Sea has encroached upon the Land, so here that Element has been driven out, as plainly appears from the marshy Grounds through which the River Bude runs, below Whalesborough; which Marsh was evidently the old Haven. It might not perhaps be found a thing impracticable, by cutting a Canal from the Tamar to the Place last mentioned, to bring fuch a Body of Water into this diminished R ver, as would once more effectually fcour this Haven, which would prove of inexpressible Importance to the County, though the gaining it should be attended with large Expences \*. For this being once done, the little River Attery, and the Brook which falls into it, upon which Launceston is seated, being also made navigable to the Tamar, which furely is very possible, that Capital of the County, which even now is a spacious and populous, though an inland Place, would have a direct and commodious Correspondence, both with the North and South Seas, or in other Words, both with the Bristol and British Channels; whereas at present, it has no Communication with either. Boscaftle, corruptly for Betreaux-caftle, is the next Creek, and of no greater Significance than the former.

<sup>\*</sup> The Cut proposed; if the Situation will allow it, would not exceed three Miles, and before the Canal was begun, all the necessary Works on the Sea-side might be previously finished.

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may fay the same of Portsick, the Creek that runs up to Carantack, and several others; none of which serve for any thing more considerable than Fishing-boats; owing all to the same Causes, the Sands filling them up, and the Soil choaking the Rutts that runinto them) so that they are gradually (though not irreparably) diminished in Size and Strength. But as these were all once naturally better, so by the Assistance of Art, and with a moderate Charge, there is surely scarce any of them that may not be made Harbours again.

Mr. Carew published, in the Reign of King James I. a very judicious Survey of this County, dedicated to Sir Walter Raleigh. The Reader may there inform himself, in a particular manner, of its Natural History, and the Produce, Customs, and

Rarities with which it abounds.

Among the natural Productions of Cornwall, ought not to be omitted their Slate, the best in Europe for covering of Houses; the Moor-stone, which, by a very laborious Polishing (a Matter very lately attempted), equals in Beauty the Egyptian Granate. I take no notice of the Gold, Silver, Copper, Tin, Lead, the Marble, Agat, Coral, and even Diamonds, which are here found, because these have been observed by all, who mention the Productions of this Western County; and, for the same Reason, shall omit the manner of their working their Mines, and refining the Ore.

Saltash seems to be the Ruins of a larger Place: it is governed by a Mayor and Aldermen, has many Privileges, sends Members to Parliament, has the sole Oyster-fishing in the whole River, which is considerable. It has also Jurisdiction upon the River Tamar, down to the Mouth of the Port; so that they claim Anchorage of all small Ships that enter the River. Their Coroner sits upon all Bodies that are sound drowned in the River. Here is a good Market; and it is very much benefited by the Increase of the Inhabitants of Plymouth, as lying near the Dock at the R 5

Mouth of the Ham-Ouze; for those People choose rather to go to Saltash to Market by Water, than to walk to Plymouth by Land, for their Provisions: because, first, as they go in the Town-boat, the same Boat brings home what they buy; fo that it is much less Trouble: secondly, because Provisions are bought much cheaper at Saltash, than at Plymouth: and of late they have some Ships that use the Newfoundland Fishery.

There is no other Town upon the Tamar till we come to Launceston, the County-town, which I shall take in my Return, except Kellington, a pretty good Market and Portreve-town, where is a good Markethouse, and a neat Church, which, as well as the other Buildings in the Town, are in good Condition; and which fends Members to Parliament: fo I turned West, keeping the South Shore of the County, to the

Land's-end.

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From Saltash I went to Leskard, about seven Miles. This is a confiderable Town, well-built, has People of Fashion in it, and a great Market: it is one of the five Stannary-towns for Cornwall; and was once still more eminent, and had a good Castle, and a large House, where the antient Dukes of Cornwall kept their Court: it also enjoyed several considerable Privileges, especially by the Favour of the Black Prince, who, as Prince of Wales, and Duke of Cornwall, refided here; and in Return, they fay, this Town, and the Country round it, raised a great Body of stout young Fellows, who entered into his Service, and followed his Fortunes in his Wars. But these Buildings are fo decayed, that there are now scarce any of the Ruins of the Caffle, or of the Prince's Court, remaining. Here was also antiently a Chapel, much resorted to by Pilgrims in Popish times; and in the Town is a Fountain of very clear Water, to which many miraculous Cures were attributed.

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It still boasts of its Guild, or Town ball, on which is a Turret, with a fine Clock; a good Free-school, well-provided; a fine Conduit in the Market-place; an antient large Church, dedicated to St. Martin; and a large new-built Meeting-house for the Dissenters; which I name, because they assured me there were but three more, and those inconsiderable, in all the County of Cornwall; whereas, in Devonshire, which is the next County, there are reckoned about 70, some of which are exceeding large.

This Town is also remarkable for a great Trade in all Manufactures of Leather, such as Boots, Shoes, Gloves, Purses, Breeches, &c. and some Spinning of late Years is set up here, encouraged by the Woollen

Manufacturers of Devonshire.

Between these two Towns of Saltash and Leskard is the Borough of St. Germans; which, as well as Lefkard, fends Members to Parliament. It is now a Village, decayed, and without any Market, but the largest Parish in the whole County; in the Bounds of which are contained 17 Villages, and the Town of Saltash among them; for Saltash Church, it seems, is but a Chapel of Ease to St. Germans. It has been antiently a Bishop's See, which was translated from Bodmyn hither, and afterwards from St. Germaus to Crediton, then one of the best Towns in the County of Devon, and thence to Exeter. This Town takes its Name from St. German, bishop of Auxerre in Lurgundy, who came over from France to preach against the Herefy of Pelagius, which then began to spread in England, and took up his Refidence here. The Ruins of the Episcopal Palace at Cuttenbeck, a Mile and half from the Town, which afterwards dwindled into a Farm-house, are still visible. A Gentleman, of the Name of Elliot, was lately a great Benefactor to this' Town, having endowed a public School here, repaired the Sessions-house, and beautified the Church; R 6

where he was buried, and has a fine Italian particoloured Marble Monument erected to his Memory, by his Widow. There is an Episcopal Chair in the Church, and several other Seats belonging to Canons. The Town stands on a rising Ground, and is built in

the Form of an Amphitheatre.

In the Neighbourhood of these Towns are many pleasant Seats of the Cornish Gentry, who are indeed very numerous, and sociable, generous, and kind Neighbours to one another; they usually intermarry among themselves; from whence, they say, the Proverb, That all the Cornish Gentlemen are Cousins. It is the very same in Wales; where the greatest Compliment that one Gentleman can make to another of the same County, is to call him Cousin. There is a great Conformity of Manners, Customs, and Usages, between the Welsh and Cornish; who are accounted of the same Origin, and Descendents also of the antient Britons; and there is likewise a great Affinity between the old Cornish and Welsh Languages.

On the Hills North of Leskard, and in the Way between that Town and Launceston, are many Tin Mines, and some of the richest Veins of that Metal in the whole County; which, when cast at the Bowling houses into Blocks, are sent to Leskard to be

coined.

From Leskard, in our Course West, we are necessarily carried to the Sea-coast, because of the River Fowey, which empties itself into the Sea, at a large Mouth; and hereby, this River rising in the Middle of the Breadth of the County, and running South, and the River Camel rising not far from it, and running North, with a like large Channel, the Land from Bodmyn to the Western Part of the County is almost made an Island, and in a manner cut off from the Eastern; the Isthmus, or Neck of Land between, being not above 12 Miles over.

In the Parish of St. Cleer is a Piece of Antiquity, which they call, The other Half stone; which are indeed

deed two Stones fixed in the Ground; and, by Mortices in each, they feem to have been heretofore joined together. Both of them were curiously wrought by Diaper-work Carvings; but one of them hath an Inscription in very antique Characters; as follows:

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which feem to express thus much; Doniert Rogavite pro Anima; implying, that Dungarth or Doniert (King of Cornwall, who was drowned A. D. 782.) gave this Land for the Good of his Soul.

Not far distant is an Heap of large Stones, under which lies a great Stone, fashioned like a Cheese, and seems to the Eye, as if it were pressed into that Form, by the Weight that lies upon it; and hence they call it Wring-cheese, or Cheese-wring. These seem to be naturally so piled, in the Manner we see them, upon one another, the least at the Bottom; they lie askew, and not perpendicularly.

On the South-west from Leskard, we come to Foy, or Fowey, an antient Borough-town, and formerly very large and potent; for the Foyens, as they were then called, were able to fit out large Fleets, not only of Merchant-ships, but even of Men of War; and with these, not only sought with, but several times vanquished and routed, the Squadron of the Cinqueport Men, who, in those Days, were very powerful.

Mr. Camden observes, that the Town of Foy quarters some Part of the Arms of every one of those Cinque-

Cornw.

Cinque-ports with its own; intimating, that it had, at feveral times, triumphed over them all: and indeed Foy was once so powerful, that it fitted out Fleets against the French, and took several of their Men of War, when they were at Variance with England, enriching their Town by the Spoil of their Enemies.

Edward IV. favoured them much; and, because the French threatened to come up their River with a powerful Navy to burn their Town, he caused two Forts to be built at the public Charge for its Security. the Ruins of which are still to be seen: but the same King Edward was some time after so disgusted at the Townsmen, for officiously falling upon the French, after a Truce was proclaimed, that he effectually difarmed them, took away their whole Fleet, Ships, Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture: and, fince that time, we do not read of any of their Naval Exploits, nor that they ever attempted to recover their Strength at Sea. However, Foy, at this Time, is a very fair Town; it lies extended on the West-side of the River, for above a Mile, the Buildings fair, and there are a great many flourishing Merchants in it, who have a great Share in the Fishing-trade, especially for Pilchards. In this Town is also a Coinage for the TIN, of which a great Quantity is dug up in the Country North and The Church is antient, and very fine; and the Town fends two Members to Parliament.

The River Fowey, which is very broad and deep here, was formerly navigable by Ships of good Burden, as high as the Borough-town of Lestwithiel, an antient, and once a flourishing, but now a decayed Place; and, as to Trade and Navigation, quite destitute; which is occasioned by the River being filled up

with Sand.

Lestwithiel was called in the British time, Pen Uchel Coed, i. e. an high Place with Wood. It became fince the antient Residence of the Dukes of Cornwall.

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The Ruins of a Castle belonging to them are still to be seen, on a rising Ground, at a little Distance from the Town. The Church is an handsome Edifice; but the Steeple carries the Marks of the Civil Wars in the Reign of Charles I. when the great Hall and Exchequer of the said Dukes of Cornwall were also utterly defaced. Some say this Town was formerly the County-town: and it still retains several Advantuges, which support its Figure: as, 1. That it is one of the Coinage or Stannary-towns. 2. The common Gaol for the whole Stannary is here, as are also the County-courts for Cornwall. 3. It has the Privilege of sending two Members to Parliament.

There is a mock Cavalcade kept up at this Town, which is very remarkable: the Particulars, as they are related by Mr. Carew, in his Survey of Cornwall,

take as follows: "Upon little Easter Sunday, the Freeholders of this Town and Manor, by themselves or their Deputies, did there affemble: amongst whom one (as it fell to his Lot by Turn), bravely apparelled, gallantly mounted, with a Crown on his Head, a Scepter in his Hand, and a Sword borne before him, and dutifully attended by all the rest, also on Horseback, rode through the principal Street to the Church: the Curate, in his best Beseen, solemnly received him at the Church-yard Stile, and conducted him to hear Divine Service. After which, he repaired with the fame Pomp to an House provided for that Purpose, made a Feast to his Attendants, kept the Table's End himself, and was served with kneeling Assay, and all other Rights due to the Estate of a Prince: with which Dinner the Ceremony ended, and every Man returned Home again. The Pedigree of this Usage is derived from fo many Descents of Ages,

that the Cause and Author outreach Remembrance. Howbeit, these Circumstances afford a Conjecture,

that it should betoken Royalties appertaining to the

· Honour of Cornwall."

Behind Foy, and nearer to the Coast, at the Mouth of a small River, which some call Loe, though without any Authority, stand two Borough towns opposite to one another, bearing the Name of East Loe, and West Loe. These are both good trading Towns, and especially for Fish; and, which is very particular, are, like Weymouth and Melcombe in Dorsetsbire, separated only by the Creek, or River; and yet each of them sends Members to Parliament. These Towns are joined together by a very beautiful and stately Stone Bridge, having 15 Arches.

East Loe, was the antienter Corporation of the two; and, some Ages ago, the greater and more considerable Town; but now, they tell us, West Loe is the richest, and has the most Ships belonging to it; but has neither Church, nor Chapel, nor Meeting house, in it. Were they put together, they would make a

very handsome Sea port Town.

Paffing from hence, and ferrying over Foy River, we come into a large Country, without many Towns of Note in it, but very well furnished with Gentlemens

Seats, and a little higher up with Tin-works.

The Sea making several deep Bays here, they who travel by Land are obliged to go higher into the Country, to pass above the Water, especially at Treward-reth-bay, which lies very broad, above ten Miles within the Country; which passing at Trewardreth, a Town of no great Note, though the Bay takes its Name from it, the next Inlet of the Sea is the samous Firth, or Inlet, called Falmouth-Haven. It is certainly, next to Milsord Haven in South Wales, the fairest and best Road for Shipping, that is in the whole Isle of Britain; whether we consider the Depth of Water for above 20 Miles within Land; the Sasety of Riding, sheltered from all kind of Winds or Storms; the good Anchorage,

Anchorage, and the many Creeks, all navigable,

where the Ships may run in and be fafe.

There are fix or feven very confiderable Places upon this Haven, and the Rivers from it; viz. Grampound, Tregony, Truro, Penryn, St. Mawes, Falmouth, and Pendennis. The five first of these send Members to Parliament; although the Town of Falmouth, as big as all of them together (Truro excepted), and richer than ten such, sends none. Indeed, till the fixth of Edward VI. none but Launceston, Leskard, Lestwithiel, Truro, Bodmyn, Helston, and Bossiney, sent any.

St. Mawes, and Pendennis, or Pen dinas (which fignifies in the old British, the End or Head of a City), are two Fortifications placed at the Points, or Entrance, of this Haven, opposite to one another, though not with a Communication or View. They are very strong; the former principally by Sea, having a good Platform of Guns, pointing athwart the Channel, and planted on a Level with the Water; but Pendennis Castle is strong by Land, as well as by Water, is regularly fortified, has good Out-works, and generally a strong Garison; and each of them has a Governor.

St. Mawes, otherwise called St. Mary's, has a Town annexed to the Castle, and is a Borough; but has neither Church, Chapel, Meeting house, Fair, nor

Market.

The Town of Falmouth is by much the richest and best trading Town in this County, though not so antient as its Neighbour-town of Truro; and indeed, is in some things obliged to acknowlege its Seniority; and the Truro Men receive several Duties collected in Falmouth; particularly Wharsage for the Merchandizes landed or shipped off: but the Town of Falmouth has gotten the Trade, at least the best Part of it, from the other, which is chiefly owing to the Situation; for, lying upon the Sea, but within the Entrance, Ships of the greatest Burden come up to the very Quay; and the whole Royal Navy might ride safely in the Road;

Road; whereas the Town of Truro, lying far within, and at the Mouth of two fresh Rivers, is not navigable for Vessels of above 150 Tons, or thereabouts; the Trade at Truro being chiesly, if not altogether, for the Shipping off of Block Tin and Copper Ore, the latter being lately found in large Quantities in some of the Mountains between Truro and St. Michael's, and which is much improved since several Mills are erected at Bristol, and other Parts, for the Manusactures of Battery-ware, as it is called.

Falmouth is well-built, has abundance of Shipping belonging to it, is full of rich Merchants, and has an increasing Trade, because of the setting up, of late Years, the English Packets between this Port and Liston; which occasions a new Commerce between Portugal and this Town, amounting to a very great Value. There are Packets also established to the Groyne in

Spain, and to the West Indies.

It is true, Part of this Trade was founded in a clandestine Commerce carried on by the said Packets at Liston; where, being the King's Ships, and claiming the Privilege of not, being searched or visited by the Custom-house Officers, they found Means to carry off great Quantities of British Manusactures, which they sold on board to the Portuguese Merchants, and they conveyed them on Shore, as it is supposed, without

paying Custom.

But the Government there getting Intelligence of it, and Complaint being made in England also, where it was found to be prejudicial to the fair Merchant, that Trade has been effectually stopped: but the Falmouth Merchants, having by this means gotten a Taste of the Partuguese Trade, have maintained it ever since in Ships of their own. These Packets bring over vast Quantities of Gold in Specie, either in Moidores, or in Bars of Gold, on Account of the Merchants at Landon.

The Custom-house for all the Towns in this Port, and the Head-Collector, is established at this Town; where where the Duties, including those of the other Ports, are very considerable. Here is also a great Fishery for Pilchards, and the Merchants of Falmouth have the

chief Stroke in that gainful Trade.

The Country People round about used to call Falmouth, Penny come quick, and to tell this Story of the Occasion. Within less than 40 Years of the Restoration, there was not fo much as one House where that flourishing Town now stands; but a certain Person building a little one, a Female Servant of one Mr. Pendaris, came and dwelt in it; upon which that Gentleman bid her brew a little Ale, and on fuch a Day, he promised to come with some Gentlemen, and help her to some Money by drinking it up. She obeyed her Master's Orders; but in the mean time, a Dutch Vessel came into the Harbour, and the Crew calling at the House, drank out all the Ale. Mr. Pendaris came with his Friends at the Day appointed, and calling for some Drink, his Servant told him the had none. Her Master expostulating with her, she told him what had passed, and said, Truly, Master, the Penny came so quick, I could not deny them.

Truro, though it gives Place to Falmouth, is however a confiderable Town. It stands up the Water Northand-by-east from Falmouth, in the utmost extended Branch of the Haven, at the Conflux of two Rivers, which, though not of any long Course, have a very good Appearance for a Port, and make a large Wharf between them in the Front of the Town; and the Water here makes a good Port for small Ships, tho' it be at the Inslux, but not for Ships of Burden. There

are at least three Churches in it.

Tregony, or Tregenen (which in British fignifies the Mouth-town), is a Borough-town upon the same Water, North-east from Falmouth, distant about 16 Miles from it, but is a Town of very little Trade; nor indeed have any of the Towns so far within the Shore, (notwithstanding the Benefit of the Water) any considerable

fiderable Trade, but what is carried on under the

Merchants of Falmouth or Truro.

Grampound, is a Market-town and Borough, about four Miles farther up the Water. This Place indeed has a Claim to Antiquity, and is an Appendix to the Duchy of Cornwall, of which it holds at a Fee-farm Rent, and pays to the King 101. 11 s. 1 d. per Annum. It has no Parish-church, but only a Chapel of Ease to an adjacent Parish. Here are some Remains to be seen of a samous Goedfala, which, in the British, signifies Felon-wood, granted, with all the Lands in it, to the

Town, in King Edward III's Time.

Penryn, another Borough-town, is up the same Branch of the Haven as Falmouth, but stands sour Miles higher towards the West, upon an Hill; yet Ships come to it of as great a Size, as can come to Truro. It is a very pleasant agreeable Town, and for that Reason has many Merchants in it, who would perhaps otherwise live at Falmouth. The chief Commerce of these Towns, as to their Sea-affairs, is the Pilchard and Newsoundland Fishing, which is very profitable to them all. It had formerly a Conventual Church, with a Chantry, and a Religious House, a Cell to Kirton; but they are all demolished, and scarce the Ruins of them distinguishable enough to know one Part from another. The Sea embraces this Town on each Side.

Penryn is exceedingly well watered, having Water running in wooden Pipes through the Streets, and at Intervals Cisterns to receive it; and it is so contrived, that what overflows the Cistern, runs into another wooden Pipe; and so interchangeably down the Hill the Town stands upon. Besides this, almost every House hath Spring-water, a Garden and an Orchard to itself. It is governed by a Mayor and 12 Aldermen, and returns two Members to Parliament. The Mayor of Penryn uses to write himself Mayor of Falmouth.

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Quitting Falmouth Haven, from Penryn West, we came to Helston, another Borough town, at about seven Miles Distance: it stands upon the little River Cober, which however admits the Sea so into its Bosom, as to make a tolerable good Harbour for Ships, a little below the Town. It is the fifth Town allowed for the Coining Tin, and several of the Ships called Tin Ships are laden here.

Helston is large and populous, and has four spacious Streets, an handsome Church, and a good Trade. Beyond it is a Market-town, though of no Resort for Trade, called Market-Jew: it lies indeed on the Seasside, but has no Harbour or safe Road for Shipping.

At Helford is a small, but good Harbour, between Falmouth and this Port, where many times the Tin Ships go in to load for London; also here are a good Number of Fishing vessels for the Pilchard Trade,

and abundance of skilful Fishermen.

Pensance, in British Pensand, i. e. the Head, or End of the Sand, is the farthest Town of any Note West, being 254 Miles from London, and within about ten Miles of the Promontory called the Land's end; fo that this Promontory is from London 264 Miles, or thereabouts. This is a Market-town of good Bufiness, well-built, and populous; has a good Trade, and a great many Ships belonging to it, notwithstanding it is fo remote. Here are also a great many good Families of Gentlemen, though in this utmost Angle of the Nation: and, which is yet more strange, the Veins of Lead, Tin, and Copper Ore, are said to be seen, even to the utmost Extent of Land, at Low-water Mark, and in the very Sea. So rich, fo valuable a Treasure is contained in these Parts of Great Britain, though they are supposed to be poor, because so remote from London, which is the Center of our Wealth.

At Pensance I saw the House in which they lay, (and the Manner in which they press) their Fish, especially Pilchards: they pile them up on a Bed of great great Length and Breadth, to wit, as long and broad as the House made for that Purpose will permit, and Breast high; then in the Wall behind, they have a Hole into which they thrust a Raster or Post of Timber, (which reacheth cross the Bed of Fish) and on the other End of it hang one or two or more great Stones, of which they have many lying there, with a great Hook of Iron sastened in them for that Purpose; of these Holes and Rasters they have many all along the Bed, which press down the Boards, wherewith I conceive the Bed of Fish is covered, and so press the Fish equally underneath the Bed, they have a Gutter to receive and convey the Oil which comes from the Fish into a Vessel made on Purpose in the Ground at one End of the House

They have a pretty Quay made with a Pier of Stone,

both at Pensance and St. Ives.

Between Pensance and St. Burien, a Town midway between it and the Land's-end, stands a circular Temple of the Druids, consisting of 19 Stones, the Distance between each being 12 Feet, and a 20th in the Center, much higher than the rest; and are not unlike those of Stone-henge in Wilishire. The Parish where they stand is called Biscard woune, from whence the antient and noble Family of Boscawen derives its Name.

In Cleer Parish in this County, fix or eight Stones of prodigious Bigness likewise stand up in a Circle; a Monument of the like Nature.

These are probably, as those at Stone henge and Bu-

rien, Remains of Druids Temples.

And we shall mention in this Place, that at Stantondrew in Somersetshire, is another Temple of the

Druids, called The Weddings.

The Maen-amber, near this Town of Pensance, was also a very remarkable Stone, which, as Mr. Camden tells us, though it be of a vast Bigness, yet might be moved with one Finger, notwithstanding a great Number

Number of Men could not remove it from its Place. It was destroyed, as one of the same fort was in Fife. shire, Scotland, by one of Oliver's Governors: for those Reformers had a Notion of these Works being of a superstitious Kind.

Maen is a British Word for a great Stone: there is one of these Stones, as Dr. Stukely tells us, in Derbyshire; and Mr. Toland acquaints us, that there are also such in Ireland, as well as Wales: he gives the

following Account of this Piece of Antiquity.

At a Place called Maen-aniber, fays he, is an Heap of Stones, roundish, and of a vast Bulk; but so artificially pitched on flat Stones, sometimes more,

fometimes fewer in Number, that touching the

great Stone lightly, it moves, and feems to totter, to the great Amazement of the Ignorant; but ffirs

not, at least not fensibly, when one uses his whole

Strength.'

Near Pensance, but open to the Sea, is that Gulph they call Mount's-bay, named so from an high Hill standing in the Water, or rather a Rock, which they call St. Michael's Mount; the Seamen call it only The Cornish Mount. It has been fortified, though the Situation of it makes it so difficult of Access, that, like the Bass in Scotland, there needs no Fortification. Like the Bass too, it was once made a Gaol for Prisoners of State; but now it is wholly neglected. At Pensance is a very good Road for Shipping, which makes their Town a Place of Resort.

A little up in the Country towards the North-west is Godolchan; which, though an Hill, rather than a Town, gives Name to the antient and noble Family of Godolphin; and nearer on the Northern Coast is Ryalton, which gives the second Title to the Earl Godolphin. This Place also is infinitely rich in Tin

Mines.

But I must not end this Account at the utmost Extent of the Island of Great Britain West, without taking taking some little Notice of those kind of Excrescences of the Island, the Rocks of Scilly, where many good Ships are almost continually dashed in Pieces, and many brave Lives lost, in Spite of the Mariner's best Skill, or the Light-houses and other Sea-marks best Notice.

These Isles, called in Latin, Silurum Insulæ, lie about 30 Miles from the Land's-end, and are a Cluster of small Islands, to the Number, as some reckon, of 145. Scilly was once the chief in Estimation. But St. Mary being the fruitfullest and largest, though but nine Miles about, has now the Pre-eminence; and it has a very good Harbour, fortisted with a Castle built by Queen Elizabeth. These Isles were conquered by Athelstane, one of the Saxon Kings; and from his time they are deemed a Part of the County of Cornwall.

These Islands lie so in the Middle between the two vast Openings of the North and South narrow Seas, or, as the Sailors call them, the Bristol Channel, and The Channel (so called by way of Eminence), that it cannot, or perhaps never will be avoided, but that several Ships in the Dark of the Night, and in Stress of Weather, may, by being out in their Reckonings, or by other unavoidable Accidents, mistake; and if they do, they are sure, as the Sailors call it, to run Bump assore upon Scilly, where they find no Quarter among the Breakers, but are beat to Pieces, without any Possibility of Escape.

One can hardly mention the Rocks of Scilly, without letting fall a Tear to the Memory of Sir Cloudesly Shovel, and all the gallant Spirits with him; who, in the Admiral's Ship, with three other Men of War, and all their Men, running upon these Rocks, right afore the Wind, in a dark Night, were lost, and not a Man saved, in his Return from a fruitless Expedition

against Toulon.

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They tell us of eleven Sail of Merchant-ships homeward-bound, and richly laden from the Southward, who had the like Fate, in the same Place, a great many Years ago; and that some of them coming from Spain, and having a great Quantity of Bullion or Pieces of Eight on board, the Money frequently drives on Shore still, and that in good Quantities, especially af-

ter stormy Weather.

This may be the Reason why, as we observed during our fhort Stay here, several Mornings after it had blown fomething hard in the Night, the Sands were covered with Country-people, running to and fro to fee if the Sea had cast up any thing of Value. This the Seamen call going a storing; and it feems they often find good Purchase. Sometimes also dead Bodies are cast up here, the Confequence of Shipwrecks among those fatal Rocks and Islands; as also broken Pieces of Ships. Casks, Chefts, and almost every thing that will float,

or roll on Shore by the Surges of the Sea.

Nor is it feldom that the favage Country-people fcuffle and fight about the Right to what they find, and that in a desperate manner; so that this Part of Cornwall may truly be faid to be inhabited by a fierce and ravenous People, like those on the Coast of Suffex; for they are fo greedy and eager for Prey, that they are charged with strange, bloody, and cruel Dealings, even sometimes with one another; but especially with poor diftreffed Seamen, when they are forced on Shore by Tempefts, and feek Help for their Lives, and where they find the Rocks themselves not more merciless than the People who range about them for Prey.

Here also, as a farther Testimony of the immense Riches which have been loft at times upon this Coaft, we found several Engineers and Projectors with Diveing Engines, attempting to recover what had been loft,

and that not always unfuccessfully.

From the Tops of the Hills, on this Extremity of the Land, you may fee out into what they call the Chaps VOL. I.

of the Channel; which, as it is the greatest Inlet of Commerce, and the most frequented by Merchant-ships of any Place in the World; so one seldom looks out to Sea-ward, but something new presents of Ships passing, or repassing, either on the great or lesser Channel.

The Point of the Main-Land, called the Lizard, which runs out to the Southward, and the other Promontory called the Land's-end, make the two Angles, or Horns, as they are called, from whence 'tis supposed this Country received its first Name of Cornwall, or, as Mr. Camden says, Cornubia in the Latin, and in the British, Kerneu, as running out in two vastly extended Horns.

The Lizard Point is still more useful (though not so far West), than the other, which is more properly called The Land's-end, being more frequently first discovered from the Sea; and is therefore the general Guide, and the Land which the Ships choose to make first; being then sure, that they are past Scilly.

Nature has fortified this Part of the Island of Britain in a strange manner, and so as is worth a Traveller's

Observation.

First, there are the Islands of Scilly, and the Rocks about them; which are placed like Out-works to resist the first Assaults of this Enemy the Ocean, and so break the Force of it; as the Piles or Stirlings (as they are called) are placed before the solid Stone-work of London bridge, to sence off the Force, either of the Water or Ice, or any thing else that might be dangerous to the Work.

Then there are a vast Number of funk Rocks, besides such as are visible, and above Water; which gradually lessen the Quantity of Water, that would otherwise lie with an infinite Weight and Force upon the Land. 'Tis observed, that these Rocks lie under Water for a great Way off into the Sea on every Side the said two Horns or Points of Land; so breaking the Force of the Water, and lessening the Weight of its

But besides this, the whole Body of the Land, which makes this Part of the Isle of Britain, seems to be one solid Rock, as if it was formed by Nature to resist the otherwise irresistable Power of the Ocean. And indeed, if one were to observe with what Fury the Sea comes on sometimes against the Shore, especially at the Lizard Point, where there are but sew, if any, Outworks (as I call them) to resist it; how high the Waves come forward, storming on the Back of one another, particularly when the Wind blows off sea; one would wonder, that even the strongest Rocks themselves should be able to resist and repel them. But, as I said, the Country seems to be one great Body of Stone, and prepared so on purpose.

And yet, as if all this were not enough, Nature has provided another strong Fence; and that is, that these vast Rocks are, in a manner, cemented together by the solid and weighty Ore of Tin and Copper, especially the latter, which is plentifully sound upon the very outmost Edge of the Land, and with which the Stones may be said to be soldered together, lest the Force of the Sea should separate and disjoint them, and, breaking in upon these Fortifications of the Island, destroy its chief

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This is certain, that there is a more than ordinary Quantity of Tin, Copper, and Lead also, fixed by the Great Author of Nature in these very remote Angles; so that the Ore is found upon the very Surface of the Rocks a good way into the Sea, and does not only lie, as it were, upon or between the Stones among the Earth, which in that Case might be washed from it by the Sea; but is even blended or mixed in with the Stone themselves, so that the Stones must be split into Pieces to come at it. By this Mixture the Rocks are made exceedingly weighty and solid, and thereby still the more qualified to repel the Force of the Sea.

Upon this remote Part of the Island we saw such Numbers of that samous king of Grows, which is known

by the Name of the Cornish Chough: they are the same kind which are found in Switzerland among the Alps, and which Pliny pretended were peculiar to those Mountains, and calls the Pyrrhocorax. The Body is black. the Legs, Feet, and Bill, of a Yellow, almost to a Red. I could not find, that it was affected for any good Quality it had; nor is the Flesh good to eat; for it feeds much on Fish and Carrion: it is counted little better than a Kite; for it is of a ravenous Nature, and is very mischievous; it will steal and carry away any thing about the House, that is not too heavy for it, tho' not fit for its Food; as Knives, Forks, Spoons, and Linen Cloths, or whatever it can fly away with; fometimes, they fay, it has stolen Bits of Firebrands, or lighted Candles, and lodged them in the Stacks of Corn, and in the Thatch of Barns and Houses, and set them on Fire.

I might take up many Sheets in describing the valuable Curiosities of this little Chersonese, called The Land's end, in which lies an immense Treasure, and many things worth Notice, besides those to be found upon the Surface: but I am too near the End of this Letter. If I have Opportunity, I shall take Notice of some Part of what I omit here, in my Return by the Northern Shore of the County, as well as give a more particular Description of the Isles of Scilly than I have yet had an Opportunity to give, in the Method or Course I pursued.

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#### LETTER VII.

A more particular DESCRIPTION of the SCILLY ISLANDS.

SUCH an Opportunity as I hoped-for has happened, and in this Letter I will perform my Promife; a kind Friend having affifted me in some of my Observations.

The Scilly Islands, of which the most noted are 27 in Number, lie, as I have said, at about 30 Miles Distance from Cornwall, and are thought formerly to have been joined to that Main Land by an Islamus, or Neck of Land, in Length of Time washed away by the Sea, in the same manner as Great Britain is supposed antiently to have been joined to France, and indeed there is still a great Resemblance between these Islands and Cornwall, in their Culture, Plants, and other Produce, their Tinnery, Fishery, &c.

These Islands were called by the antient Greeks Hesperides and Cassification, from their Western Situation, and their abounding with Tin. The Dutch call them Sorlings; and in several of the Tower Records, and antient Manuscripts, they are called Sully or Sulley, which is probably a Contraction from insula,

as Isle from Islands.

The Scilly Isles lie due West from the Lizard Point, about 17 Leagues, and nearly West by South, from the Southermost, or old Land's-end next Mount's-bay, ten Leagues; also W. S. W. from the middlemost or westermost Land's-end above nine Leagues, before the Entrance of the Bristol and British Channels. They are seen from the Land's-end in a clear Day, and at about six or seven Leagues off Smith's Sound, sandy Ground,

S 3

and about 60 Fathom Water; also from the Northward at 60 Fathom, ouly, sandy Ground as far.

Twenty one or twenty two Leagues W. by N. and W. N. W. from Scilly, is a Bank, on which there is but 50, 51, or 52 Fathom Water, but between this

Bank and Scilly 60 Fathoms.

Beheld at a Distance, these Islands appear like so many high Banks in the Water, as Land usually appears off at Sea. But the Rocks about the Islands, especially those to the Westward, appear off at Sea like old Cassles and Churches, with the Seas alternatively slying over them, in white Sheets, or Fleeces of that Element.

The Names, Qualities, &c. of those Islands, with the Quantity of Land, in Acres, contained in each, may be seen by the following Table.

Five larger Islands, inhabited by about 1400 People.

Tive larger Thailus,	maunc	u by about .	40010	opic.
Line may be the service				Acres.
I St. Mary, -	ك دا			1520
2 Tresco,		<b>-</b> ***	H <del>al</del> to,	880
3 St. Martin, -		-	-	720
4 St. Agnes, -			-	300
5 Bryer	<u> </u>		-	330
6 Sampson, (One	Family o	only) —	-	120
Four scatter	red Island	ds bearing (	Grass.	5 · ·
7 St. Helen, -		1984 L	N-1187	80
& Tean, -	_		-	70
9 White Island,	-	TIME TO PER	-	50
10 Annet, -		-	-\1	40
Ten Eastern Islands feeding		with Conie		fit for
Il Great Arthur,	-		of the same	30
12 Great Ganilly,	-	100	in <del>Tr</del> ans	20
13 Great Gannick,			1-0	18
14 Minewithen,	_	-		15
			I	Nor-

Scilly.	GREAT BRIT	CATN	201
			391
	ita Dewins, he teroral - Oktobro <del>l P</del> leatures <b>ex</b>	DE DIRECTOR	Acres.
	Arthur,	_	7.0
	Fanilly, -		6
18 Little C	Fannick, -		5
	Island, -	teller to the	5
20 Innifuo	uls, it was the thing of the	a) one sign	11.4
Seven fo	cattered Islands placed	about the lar	gest.
21 Mincar	lo,	Total Factor	12
22 Gunhall	HOUSE OF CONTROL OF CO	teresconde de la companya della companya della companya de la companya della comp	IO.
23 Northu		<del>a</del> a but , ni <del>tal</del> ,	9
24 White I	fland, near Sampson,	was the said	of 10713
26 Scilly If	Island, —		7 3 m
27 Rat Ifte		aw-wod. so	I
27 - 200 - 2100	King Kidan Kang Languagan	Te de personales	01
		Sum total,	4275
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	t leaft, are tillable and sesides the above, wh	improveable.	1 50 E
there may	be numbered about	a Dozen ver	ry fmall
	ing Grass; and Rock	s innumerable	e above
Water.	the control of the section	0 : 27 70	ledamal
	's is the largest of the		
	nany Houses and Inhab Length is about two		
	Breadth almost one a		
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ference.	resta III de la companya de la comp	41.441.34	
The Eart	th, or Soil, is like that	of Cornwall;	but the
	much wholfomer th		
County, bei	ing so brisk and health	ful, that Sic	kness is
very feldom	known among these I	nhabitants.	i sestant
I he Hill	s are rocky, rifing in fo	ome Places to	a great
Vallies are	l are enriched with m fertile, and the Fields	here -like	hale in
Carnavall 2	re inclosed with Stone	Hedges	Also the
Capricular, a	S 4	ricoges. 1	healthy
	~ ~ ~	4.	- 4

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healthy Plains and turfy Downs, in several Places of this Island, afford their Use and Pleasure. The highest Land yields a Prospect of England in a clear Day, and of Ships going out and returning at the Mouths of the Channels. Here is also Morass ground, in two Parts of this Island, called the Upper and Lower Moors, which supply the Cattle with Water in dry Seasons. In the upper of which, the farthest from Hugh-town,

is a pretty large and deep Lake.

About two Furlongs from Hugh town, the Capital of St. Mary's, to the Eastward, is a curious sandy Bay, called Pometin, where the Beach, from the Mark of Flood to the Mark of Ebb, is covered with an exceeding fine writing Sand, and of which Ship-loads may be gathered at Low-water. On Account of its Plenty and Brightness, it is fetched by the Inhabitants for sanding their Houses in Hugh-town, and other Parts of this Island; and Presents of it are made to many Parts of England, as a Curiosity.

The greatest Curiosities observed in St. Mary's, are the Rocks of Peninnis, and a subterraneous Passage near them, whose Entrance is called Piper's hole. This rassage is said to communicate under Ground with the Island of Tresco, as far as the North-west Cliss or Banks of it, where another Cavity is seen, that goes

by the same Name with the former.

Marine Land

Going in at the Orifice, at Peninnis Banks in St. Mary's, it is above a Man's Height, and of as much Space in its Breadth; but grows lower and narrower farther in. A little beyond which Entrance appear rocky Basons, or Reservoirs, continually running over with fresh Water, descending, as it distils from the Sides of the rocky Passage: By the Fall of Water heard, farther in, it is probable there may be rocky Descents in the Passage: The Drippings from the Sides have worn the Passage, as far as it can be seen, into very various angular Surfaces.

St. Mary's Island is defended by a strong Garrison, fituated upon the west Part of it, overlooking the Town and Ishmus, and commanding the Country that Way and to the Sea, about the Batteries, of which there are feveral strong ones, mounted with 64 Pieces of Cannon, some of 18 Pounders. It also contains a Company of Soldiers, a Master-gunner, and fix other Gunners, a Store-house, with Arms for arming 300 Islanders, who are obliged to affift the Military Forces at the Approach of an Enemy; a Guard-house, Barracks, Bridge, and strong Gates: and, upon the Summit of the Hill, above a regular Ascent, going from Hughtown stands his Majesty's Star-castle, with Ramparts and a Ditch about it. This Caftle commands a Profpect of all the Islands and Seas about them; from whence, in a fair Day, are also beheld Ships passing to and fro, and England, as though riling out of the Sea, at a Diffance. Here the King's Colours are hoisted, and appear conspicuous aloft, for Ships to observe and obey coming in. The Right Hon, the Earl of Godolphin, who is also Proprietor, commands as Governor of all the Islands; and a Lieutenant-Governor is here commissioned to act under his Lordship by his Majesty, but not upon Establishment. The Captain of the Company commands in his Lordship's and the Lieutenant-Governor's Absence, who never reside there.

About a Mile S. W. of the South-part of St. Mary's Garrison, lies St. Agnes Island, otherwise called the Light-house Island, upon which stands a very high and strong Light-house, seen in the Night at a great Distance, by which Ships going out of, or coming into the two Channels, avoid falling in with the Rocks, lying thicker about this than any other of the Scilly Islands. It is also of Use to all coasting Vessels crossing the Channels. There is nothing particular in the Soil of this Island, different from the rest of the Islands, (being, in that respect, very much alike), nor

of the Dwellings, or Description of Places, except the Light-keeper's Habitation and Employment, a Church

in Use for Devotion, and such like.

About three Miles and a Half northerly of the most Northern Part of St. Agnes's Island, or two Miles northerly from St. Mary's Key, lies the Island of Tresco, the capital Town of which is called the Dolphin, (probably from Godolphin), consisting of a Church, and about Half a Score Stone-built Houses, after the manner of those built in St. Mary's Island. And near the Landing place of Tresco, in Sight of New Grimsby Harbour, stands a Dwelling called Tresco-Palace. This formerly used to be a House of Resort for Masters of Ships, and Strangers coming to this Island; but the Custom has some time been altered to a House of better Accommodation, inhabited by Mr. Samuel Blythe, farther up the Island. Hereabouts are several scattered Stone-built Houses inhabited by labouring People.

About two Miles from the Northermost Part of St. Mary's, or one from the Eastermost Part of Tresco, lies the Island of St. Martin; upon the Extremity of which, at the outermost Part, stands a Day-mark, next the coming in of Crow-sound, appearing at a Distance, as conspicuous by Day, as the Light-house upon St. Agnes, but is not altogether so high and large. It is built with Rock-stone, equally round next the Bottom, and tapering upwards. This serves to direct Vessels crossing the Channels, or coming into Scilly.

Almost Half a Mile from the West-side of Tresco Island, to the Westward of the Landing-place, lies the Island of Bryer, which is inhabited by several Families, some of a generous Disposition, and Persons of able

Circumstances.

Samphir, and many Kinds of medicinal Herbs grow

here, as in several of the other Islands.

The Number of People upon the Island of St. Mary are about 700, including Men, Women, and Children,

dren, and about as many in the Islands of Tresco, St. Martin, Bryer, St. Agnes, and Sampson; in the last and smallest of which inhabited Islands, lives but one Family, which goes to the Places of Worship in the other Islands; here being no Opportunity of publick Devotion, nor of Communication, but by means of a Boat.

The Men are loyal Subjects, endowed with much natural Strength of Body and Mind, giving Proofs of their Fortitude in bearing Fatigues and Hardships; are very good Seamen and Pilots; and want only an Opportunity of Education, to render themselves more useful Subjects.

The Women are very dextrous in the Use of the Needle, and also in Talents of good Housewifery; nor do they want Beauty, and other engaging Qualities to

recommend them.

I have already faid, that Sir Cloudestey Shovel was loft near these Islands, in his Return from Toulon: It was upon the Gilston Rock, October 22, 1707, and not upon the Bishop and Clerks, as by some have been represented. It was thick foggy Weather, when the whole Fleet in Company, coming (as they thought) near the Land, agreed to lie to in the Afternoon; but Sir Cloudsley, in the Association, ordering Sail to be made, first struck in the Night, and sunk immediately. Several Persons of Distinction being on board at that time were loft; particularly the Lady Shovel's two Sons by her former Husband, Sir John Narborough, with about 800 Men. The Eagle, Capt. Hancock, Commander, underwent the same Fate. The Romney and Firebrand also struck and were lost; but the two Captains and 25 of their Men were faved. The other Men of War in Company escaped, by baving timely Notice.

# ERRATA.

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